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THE  
HOLLISTON, MASSACHUSETTS  
BI-CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

1724 - 1924





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To the Citizens of the Town of Holliston :

At a special Town Meeting, held on December 28, 1923, a committee was appointed to consider the action to be taken by the Town of Holliston in celebrating its two hundredth anniversary in the year 1924. At the Town Meeting of March 25, 1924, this committee made its report, and it was voted that a committee of twenty be appointed by the acting Moderator of the Meeting, Mr. Edward F. Dannahy, to be known as "The Anniversary Committee," to have in charge all details of the Celebration and to appoint such sub-committees as they deemed advisable. The sum of \$1250.00 was granted for the purpose of the celebration.

This committee organized on April 15, 1924. Sub-committees were appointed. The dates of the Celebration were set, starting on August 30 and ending on September 2nd, 1924. A major program was outlined and work on this outline was pursued during the summer. The Anniversary Committee met each week. The sub-committees organized and worked on their respective activities. The magnitude of the undertaking was soon realized, but through the complete cooperation of all townspeople the observance of the Two Hundredth Anniversary met with complete success.

During the summer articles of historical interest appeared in local and Boston papers. A souvenir medal was struck off, the subject being the old Littlefield Tavern, a building of special historic interest. The Anniversary Committee prepared a booklet containing a brief history of the town, as given by Elbridge Cutler Whiting, at the Historical Exercises, and a program of the Bi-Centennial Celebration. On the Thursday evening prior to the Celebration a part of the musical program of the Pageant and a brief forecast of the events were broadcasted from the Herald-Traveler Studio, through Station WBZ. On the eve of the Celebration an auto parade toured the surrounding towns. During the Celebration the town was decorated; all organizations kept open house; and points of historic interest were appropriately marked.

On Saturday, August 30, the Celebration opened with a ball game and sports on the recently completed athletic

field on Green Street. In the afternoon and evening a moving picture, "The Courtship of Miles Standish," was given in the Town Hall.

On Sunday, August 31, a dress rehearsal of the Pageant was held in the afternoon. In the evening the Historical Exercises were held in the recently remodeled Town Hall.

On the morning of September 1st was held the Parade, starting at 9.30. A band concert followed, filling the noon hour. In the afternoon the Pageant was given in the fields to the west of Highland Street, a performance attended by the largest throng ever assembled in the history of the town. In the evening the concert and display of fireworks, on Flagg's Field, ended a most memorable day.

The Celebration ended with a community dance, held in the Town Hall, on the evening of September 2nd.

On October 22nd and 29th, 1924, the moving pictures taken during the Celebration were exhibited in the Town Hall. On December 30th a Community Dance was held as an appropriate closing of the Bi-Centennial year of 1924.

A preliminary report of the proceedings of the Bi-Centennial Celebration was submitted the Town in the Town Meeting of March, 1925, and published in the Town Report of 1924. At this meeting it was voted that a committee be appointed to publish a complete report of the Bi-Centennial, and the sum of \$250.00 was granted for this purpose.

In accordance with this vote the following report is submitted. In it has been incorporated the "Souvenir Program," issued in connection with the Historical Exercises, and the official program of the Pageant. This material was already in existence. Addition has been made of a complete report of the other events of the Celebration, together with views of the town and the Celebration.

Respectfully submitted,

JOHN B. KEARNS, Chairman  
CHARLES D. FISHER  
F. MARCUS LELAND  
MARY E. DRISCOLL, Secretary  
JANE COMEY WILLIAMS  
HENRY M. CUTLER  
ERNEST H. CHASE



## PRELIMINARY EVENTS

On Thursday evening, August 28, a special program, arranged by George E. Spring, musical director of the Pageant, was radiocast from the Herald-Traveler-Westinghouse studio of WBZ, at the Hotel Brunswick, at 9 o'clock.

The entertainment included selections from the musical numbers of the Pageant, and a short talk upon the Celebration and Pageant by Mr. Henry M. Cutler. The Pageant choruses were rendered by a double quartet made up of the following: Mrs. Ella E. Lang and Miss Hazel Watson, sopranos; Mrs. Beula C. Spring and Miss Frieda Leland, altos; George E. Spring and Bayard S. Stone, tenors; Fred Gustafson and Charles Adams, basses. Miss Isabelle G. Twitchell, soloist, and Miss Laura Gustafson, accompanist, completed the company. The program follows:

"The Singing Skewl"	. . . . .	Chorus
"Grandmother's Attic"	. . . . .	Miss Twitchell
"Dearest Spot on Earth to Me"	. . . . .	Chorus
"Cousin Jedediah"	. . . . .	Mr. Gustafson
"Two Centuries in Five Minutes",	Mr. Henry M. Cutler	
"Strike the Cymbal"	. . . . .	Chorus
"Bonny Sweet Bessie"	. . . . .	Miss Watson, Mr. Spring
"Invitation"	. . . . .	Chorus
"The Bull Pup"	. . . . .	Chorus
"Jerusalem, My Glorious Home"	. . . . .	Chorus

Word of the reception of this program, an event unique in the musical history of the town, was received from former residents and friends from points as distant as St. Louis and Erie, Pa. In editorial comment on the following day, the Boston "Herald" said, "The Holliston Pageant Singers at WBZ last night gave proof that their earnest efforts have been devoted to making their town's Bi-Centennial an occasion long to linger in the memory. The double quartet was exceptionally good."

\* \* \*

On Friday evening a parade, in two sections, of dec-

orated automobiles toured the surroundings towns. The first division, under Mr. Henry M. Cutler, covered the towns to the west, establishing cordial relations especially with the police force of Hopkinton. The second division, led by Mr. Alfred Lyons, proceeded through Framingham and the towns to the East, returning safely after temporarily losing itself in the untracked wilderness of Medfield. Fliers were distributed, speeches made at the various stops and music provided by bugles and cornets.

\* . \* \*

## SATURDAY, AUGUST 30

On Saturday the athletic games were held on the Green Street Grounds, recently laid out in a sub-drained baseball diamond, with tiers of stone seats against the slope of Powder House Hill, by Arthur A. Williams.

The first event was a modified Marathon race, starting at East Holliston corner, the course being to Framingham and return to the finish at Green Street. Five runners started, but owing to the heat only three finished. The race was won by George Fagin of Hopedale, in one hour and twelve minutes. Amostos Sturgis of Natick finished second and Frank Young in third place.

The one hundred yard dash, for local runners only, was won by William Meader, in 12  $\frac{1}{5}$  seconds. J. Binstock finished second, and B. Gates in third place.

The one hundred yard dash, open to entries from towns within ten miles, was won by E. Dowling, of Framingham, with T. Phipps, of Hopedale, second, and S. Curtis, of Framingham, third, in the time of 11  $\frac{1}{5}$  seconds.

The relay race of eight hundred and eighty yards was won by Hopedale, (Fagin, Fitzgerald, Phipps, Simmons); Holliston, (Meader, Carr, Binstock, Stotnitz), second; Sherborn, (Clark, Coolidge, Carter, Davitt), third.

The fifty yard dash for boys was won by Clarence Sibley, with Howard Vernon, second, and William Honey, third, in the time of 8 seconds.

The fifty yard dash for girls was won by Oleva Corey, with Grace Chesmore, second, and Louise Ferguson, third, in 9  $\frac{1}{5}$  seconds.

The ball game, the first played on the new field, was between teams representing Holliston and the mother town of Sherborn. The first ball was pitched by Charles D. Fisher, Esq., and the game was won by the Holliston team, the score being 9 to 0.

In the evening there was an exhibition of the moving picture, "The Courtship of Miles Standish," in the Town Hall, with a special performance in the afternoon for the children.





## THE GENERAL COMMITTEE

### REAR ROW

JANE COMEY WILLIAMS	J. LESTER SHEA	F. MARCUS LELAND
WALTER F. WENTWORTH	LEWIS T. HOLBROOK	WARREN E. COOLIDGE
WILLIAM H. CROCKER	CORNELIUS DRISCOLL	JACOB BINSTOCK

### MIDDLE ROW

CHARLES J. FLAGG	JOSEPH P. DEXTER	HENRY M. CUTLER
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### FRONT ROW

AGNES G. NEWELL	JOSEPH H. DEWING	MARY E. DRISCOLL
CHARLES D. FISHER	MARY E. CUTLER	DENNIS MOYNIHAN
	JOHN B. KEARNS	



THE TOWN HALL  
NOON SEPTEMBER 1, 1924



## SUNDAY, AUGUST 31

On Sunday morning special services were held in the churches of the town. Following those in the Congregational Church a procession was formed, proceeding to the Burying Ground beyond the Town House, where the graves of the Revs. James Stone, Joshua Prentiss, Timothy Dickinson and Josephus Wheaton, former pastors of the church, were decorated with appropriate services.

The Historical Exercises, originally scheduled for the afternoon of Sunday, August 31, were postponed until the evening of the same day to permit the attendance of those participating in the Pageant, a dress rehearsal of which was held during the afternoon.

The Exercises, held in the Town Hall, were presided over by the Hon. Charles D. Fisher. Following instrumental music and a solo by Mrs. Marguerite Barbour, of Framingham, Mr Fisher spoke as follows:

\* \* \*

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Town of Holliston considers it a great privilege and pleasure to welcome you, not only to this service, but to all the events of the celebration of our Two Hundredth Anniversary. We extend to you our hearty hospitality and sincere friendship. We confidently hope that you will long recall this Celebration with unmixed pleasure.

Of our town I need say but little upon this occasion. My love for it is shared by each of you, a love inspired not only by its beauty, but by the many associations accumulating through the years. In these associations Holliston is especially rich; through them we are especially fortunate. The deepest and most enduring ties of life are those of the family. And we are, here in Holliston, one family, closely knit, with that respect and trust of one another which comes only from the intimate sharing of daily life and common interests.

It is the two hundredth anniversary of the founding of this family that we celebrate. These hills, these pleasant meadows and woodlands and waters are the town, and yet



they are not the town; they are the scene, and not the Pageant. They remain; we pass, our episode completed, and leave the stage for others. It is, rather, our people who constitute this town, this family; our people who lived in and loved this land before us; our people who live here today, working and living in harmony and mutual helpfulness; our people who shall, we trust, succeed us, holding the town and each other in undiminished affection and respect when we shall no longer fill this scene.

Today, at this Anniversary Celebration, we pause and look both ways. We survey the Past, with its two centuries of honorable history. It is our duty and our privilege to honor the men and women who made this history. To remember is good; to look forward is perhaps better. It is our higher duty and our greater privilege to pass on to the Future, strengthened and undiminished, remembrance of the steadfast endeavor which created this town, sustained it through trials, and shall preserve it, under God, through the coming years.

\* \* \*

*In introducing Monsignor Supple, the Chairman said:*

Across the sea lies the beautiful island known as Ireland. In two successive years, 1846 and 1847, it suffered two crop failures. Bitter and almost unheard of misfortune ensued. Starvation, death from disease, and emigration of the physically fit decreased the population by a third in those two years. At this time the contractors for the building of our railroad were struggling with the Phipps Hill cut, a monstrous undertaking with the pick and shovel, the best implements then available for the purpose. Naturally, our poor immigrants were attracted to Holliston by this public work. It was a fortunate choice for them and for the natives. They brought with them stout hearts, hard and willing hands, an unbounded cheerfulness and the well known adaptability of the Irish to their surroundings. They found here hands as hard as their own, an aristocracy of blacksmiths, wheelwrights and dirt farmers, a community where the pick and shovel were in no sense badges of inferiority, and where the transition from these humble instruments to the farms and work-shops was neither radical nor difficult. As soon as the public work was done they rapidly scattered among the farms and workshops. Here, too, they made good. These immigrants have largely passed on, and we have today the second and third generations. They are to be heartily congratulated for their great success. You will find all the so-called professions represented by them; skillful musicians, successful business men. We are fortunate in having with us this evening one



of this successful second generation. Perhaps he will tell us in detail some of the achievements of his generation. I take pleasure in presenting the Rev. Monsignor Patrick J. Supple, of Boston.

\* \* \*

*In response, Monsignor Supple spoke as follows:*

I esteem it a high and happy privilege to speak on this historic occasion, when Holliston, my native town, is celebrating the two hundredth anniversary of her birth as a township. From the earliest years of consciousness I have loved to look upon this place, as it lies nestling in the valley, surrounded on all sides by enfolding and protecting hills. All the indelible memories of youth and earlier manhood are centered here. The first intimations, those mysterious whisperings of the soul, that come from a higher sphere, that shape one's course in life and open up before him his future vocation, here had their beginning and inspiration. To me Holliston is more than a mere birthplace. To me it is sacred ground; for here were born and matured the most precious things that have come into my life.

Here, too, my mind began to unfold under the generous porticoes of Holliston's temple of learning—her schools. I went through every grade, graduating from her High School, forty-three years ago. They were good schools. They were thorough, they were comprehensive. They afforded ample opportunity for all pupils to fit themselves for any college in the land. Nor must I forget, on such an occasion, to make special mention of the Superintendent of Schools, in those days, Mr. Charles Wilder, a name ever to be revered and honored by the townspeople of Holliston. He gave freely and unselfishly of his time and of his efforts for many years for the welfare of Holliston's schools. His deep personal interest, shown by his ability to call every pupil by name, his frequent visits, his kindly concern in the progress of each scholar, made us all feel that each one of us had in Mr. Wilder, not a mere school official, but a personal friend, who took the deepest interest in our welfare; and all this was to us an inspiration and an incentive.

I would be recreant to a solemn duty, which I feel incumbent upon me, if I should fail to pay tribute on this occasion to the people from whom I have come, the Irish Catholics of the town and their descendants, who first coming here in great number in the forties of the last century have for almost eighty years formed an integral and substantial part of Holliston's population. When the first Irishman came to Holliston is uncertain. But in my reading I have gleaned this one fact: that in 1778 there was a certain John Barry of Holliston, Massachusetts, in the



Continental army under Washington; and I have no doubt he was one of the Barrys of Wexford, of the fighting race, who together with many others of like origin scattered through the colonies, not forgetting Dillon's Irish Brigade in the army of Rochambeau, did their part in achieving American Independence.

But in the grim years, beginning in 1846, when the gaunt figure of famine stalked throughout the length and breadth of their native isle, the Irish began to come to the town in ever increasing numbers. They were an honest, sturdy, industrious and God-fearing people. They came here to make a home for themselves and their families. Like the first immigrants of every race, who have come to our shores, they had to begin at the lowlier and more laborious tasks of life. They built our first railways, they worked on the highways, they dug the trenches, they worked on the farms, they were the "hewers of wood and drawers of water." Many of them found employment in Holliston's principal industry of those days; and taking out the uppers and sole leather from the factories made the boots in the little shops adjacent to their homes. They were singularly pure and upright in their marriage relations and reared large families. Deprived of educational advantages themselves, they had a singular respect for learning; and they cherished as much as any other people the laudable ambition of giving their sons and daughters the education which was denied to themselves. In one generation the descendants of people like these all over the country are occupying the higher posts in the political, social and business life of this free Republic. They are standing shoulder to shoulder with their fellow Americans of different racial origin, their equals in ability, in merit, in the finer things of mind and heart that give character and stability to our American civilization.

There is only one conclusion to be drawn from all this: the resurrection of the Irish in America in a single generation is one of the striking phenomena of modern history; and argues centuries of culture behind this race, which, suspended for a few generations under the paralyzing grip of tyranny and oppression, blossomed forth and came to full flower and fruitage under the genial rays of liberty shining from free America's skies.

We had one singular advantage here in Holliston, which I feel bound to recall at this time. We had the same spiritual guide for over forty-one years—the revered Father Quinlan. He loved Holliston with genuine love and took a deep interest in her welfare. Though offered promotion and a larger parish many times he preferred to stay here and his memory is held in benediction by the flock over



which he ruled so long. He could be stern enough when upholding the austere moral standards of the Church, but his habitual attitude was one of graciousness and kindness. He was so unselfish, so modest, so humble, so interested in the advancement of any one of his parishioners that his whole life was a constant sermon and an enduring inspiration to those who gladly followed his leadership.

Need I say in this presence that America and her free institutions has no better friend than the Catholic Church. When the great Leo died, twenty years ago, after publishing those luminous encyclical letters on "Authority," "Human Liberty," "The Constitution of Christian States," "The Condition of the Working Classes," Harper's Weekly, none too friendly to us in former days, felt constrained to say in its editorial comments that the Catholic Church was the sheet anchor of society and the breakwater against Socialism, Anarchism, and all the other perverse social theories that were aiming at the disorganization of society and erecting upon its ruins the communistic, omnipotent State. So today, on this second centenary of Holliston's history as a town I cannot forbear to say that the greatest bulwark against the organized forces of disorder that would overthrow this great American Republic is the Catholic Church and her loyal adherents.

Nor may I allow this occasion to pass without specifying and emphasizing the admirable spirit of concord and good will that has always prevailed among the different classes of Holliston's citizens. There has always been here a broad tolerance, a kindly spirit, a mutual good will that have made for a peaceful town and equality of opportunity. Never representing more than a third of the population, yet year after year you have given us a representative on the highest governing boards of the town. It is good to treasure those things on an occasion such as this and to hold up these ideals of fairness and liberal dealing for future generations to follow.

I have but one wish for Holliston today. May she flourish and wax strong in each succeeding generation and may the spirit of concord and good will that has ever animated Holliston's citizens find here a hospitable home in all the years that are to come.

\* \* \*

*The Chairman then introduced the next speaker:*

Following the Civil War, Holliston suffered keenly for many years. Its money had been given for war purposes with a free hand, and the debt of the town had been largely increased. The substantial business of the war period had passed. No new business was forthcoming, and the rem-



nant of the Old Guard came near surrendering. There were signs of improvement in the 90's of the last century, but these signs did not become well developed until the beginning of the present century. The building of the Milford and Uxbridge Street Railway was a valuable advertisement for the town, passing, as it does, through our unusually attractive main street for a distance of some five miles. Naturally new people have been attracted to the town, and large numbers have in recent years settled with us. It is interesting to observe how heartily they have adapted themselves to their new environment and what great interest they show in public affairs. A lady has been invited to speak of the merits of the newcomers. Her husband was a valued citizen, a native of the town, and she herself has been so long a citizen of Holliston that she can with the utmost propriety speak of the good qualities of the newcomers, without the slightest fear of the charge of self praise. I present Mrs. Florence N. Claflin.

\* \* \*

*Mrs. Claflin spoke as follows:*

Mr. Chairman, Fellow-townsmen and Friends:

Perhaps the reason I have been chosen to speak tonight, for the new-comers, lies in the fact, that, long antedating my actual residence, indeed for 38 years,—I have known and loved Holliston. In my remarks, therefore, I shall not be deemed guilty of transgressing the Scriptural injunction to “let another man praise thee, and not thine own lips.”

How we have thrilled, as we have listened to the simple story, ably told, of the beginning of Holliston,—to the record of the first settlers, and the part they had, in the making of the town.

We point with pride to their descendants, “acting well their part” also, in the continuity of town affairs and growth. It is something to have been born and bred in such a community, much more to have the impetus of the known example of generations of one's own. The newer-comers congratulate this group of our citizens. We're somewhat like little Mary, who came in one day from play, crying bitterly. When asked the reason for her tears, she replied, “The little girl next door says I haven't any ancestors, because we only moved here last month.”

But pause a moment—a comforting thought comes. Were not the first settlers themselves new-comers, children, many of them, of the original new-comers, who, to their credit, be it said, and with that integrity which has ever characterized the New Englander,—paid for the lands they procured from the Indians.



New-comers they certainly were, in the sense at least, that breaking away from old and known parts, — they assumed new duties and responsibilities of town and church government, constituting for them, a new life.

If it is true, as some one has said, that “there is no place that has not felt the tread of some New England child, no enterprise that has not felt his hand,” it is equally true that there is no New England city, town, or hamlet, that has not received direct and lasting benefit from its influx of new-comers.

As it is easy for the individual to follow the path of least resistance, so there is danger of a community becoming too satisfied, and—resting back on the achievements of its forebears,—falling behind in the march towards newer heights and ambitions, expressed in expansion, higher standards of beauty, education, business. Progression is more essential than ever before—for the “shrinkage” of the world, brought about by radio, rapid transit, and a host of other marvellous inventions,—makes for greater competition, more diversified world standards. No wonder the dear pastor added to his weekly petition, “Oh, Lord! Make my people dissatisfied.”

In laying the foundation of our town, 200 years ago, the first settlers “put off the old and put on the new,” and this has been the aim of each succeeding generation.

Herein lies the value of the new-comer. To the resources of assuredness, stability, wisdom and experience of the community, he brings the viewpoint of other localities, faith, a willingness to work hard, enthusiasm and vision.

Who shall say whose part is the more valuable? When the mountain streams flows into the river and it in turn into the sea, who shall say which waters move the ships?

So let's not differentiate. Tonight we're neither new-comers, nor descendants of first settlers—just children of Holliston, at home. For whether our home is still here, or we have fared forth into other abiding places—the spell of our beautiful town, its memories and traditions, will ever make it for each of us—that “sunny hollow scooped out of the windy side of the world,” the happy definition one has given to home.

\* \* \*

*In introducing the next speaker, Mr. Fisher remarked:*

Between the years 1800 and 1809 there were born at Hampton, New Hampshire, four brothers who later, when they reached or nearly reached man's estate settled in Holliston. All had a large influence here. These brothers were the children of Odlin Batchelder, named William S.,



John, Benjamin F., and George. The first three became manufacturers of boots and shoes in this town. Each built his factory in his own dooryard, and each was soon surrounded by a little neighborhood of his own employees. There were no labor troubles in those days; their employees were treated as social equals, the relation approaching a copartnership. Every dollar these manufacturers earned was an honest dollar and benefitted materially every employee and through them the whole community. William was the most prosperous, financially speaking, of the three brothers, and at his death left a larger property than any citizen of Holliston. It was all legitimately earned, and no one envied him. George, the fourth of the brothers, was a pioneer in the cultivation of the cranberry, well known to Cape Cod producers. His knowledge and intelligence were of great aid to the industry. No story about the Batchelders is complete without mention of dear John Mason Batchelder, who so recently passed away. His knowledge of local history was complete. His writing bubbled over with humor. It could justly be said of him that he found

“Tongues in the trees, books in the running brooks,  
Sermons in stones, and good in everything.”

I present the son of John Batchelder, the Hon. Francis Batchelder, of Everett.

\* \* \*

*Mr. Batchelder replied:*

Judge Kingsbury has suggested that I address you on my recollections of the Batchelder brothers, who had such an important part in moulding the civic and industrial development of Holliston during the mid-century just past. As the youngest male descendant of that remarkable and virile race of men, born and reared in the old town, I am glad of the opportunity to pay tribute to the character and capacity of this family as I knew them in my youthful days up to the age of twenty-two. The outstanding assets of these early settlers were poverty and a father who taught them the details of thorough shoe making, with a good mother who bore the brunt of home training in the long absences of the father in his house-to-house itinerary, equipping whole families with shoes as was the custom in those primitive days.

During their boyhood, in that frugal home, on the slope of Mt. Kiarsarge, in Wilmot, N. H., that mother educated and trained them in the fundamentals of frugality, industry and integrity, which proved to be the main incentives of long and useful careers. Perhaps a clue to their attainment of success may be found in their selection of residential locations: William, chose the beautiful slope of



Phipps Hill; Benjamin, a picturesque knoll at East Holliston; John, the high ground on the Medway Village road, and George, the elevation nearly opposite the M. E. Church. These selections were delightful for situation, excellent for healthful drainage and for business reasons were on main travelled roads; near enough for each other for relationship and far enough apart to satisfy the family characteristic of independence. These men paid tribute to no master and with their initiative, probity and diligence they were bound to succeed, each for himself; indeed, their self reliance was so marked that I never knew of any favor asked or rendered, nor any social visiting or confidences between the brothers.

William, born in 1800, was the pioneer and fully exercised his capacity for leadership, leaving home at the age of eighteen, establishing himself in business, the other brothers following, each walking the whole distance, and a few years later he brought the two younger brothers, who settled elsewhere and after working their way through college, adopted the ministry as a profession; later he brought down two sisters and his father and mother, building for the parents a cottage on Prospect Street, where they lived the remainder of their lives; this cottage was displaced for the larger house, built by his daughter, Mrs. S. S. Nichols. William became wealthy for that period and for many years was president of the Holliston Bank and an important factor in the commercial prosperity of the town.

George adopted horticulture as a vocation and he was widely known as a high grade cranberry grower. His outlet for the generous instincts of his heart was in providing assistance to a college education for numerous young men. Benjamin and John followed the elder brother in the shoe manufacturing business. These sturdy men became vitally interested in the civic, moral and religious upbuilding of the town and each created a community of his own, where contentment and good citizenship was the prevailing sentiment of numerous employees.

Judge Kingsbury said to me tonight, "They passed prosperity around," and a more fitting eulogy could not be uttered. Benjamin, born in 1801, settled in East Medway, (now Millis), engaging in the shoe business in a limited way, and John, my father, worked for him and lived with him. Now Benjamin's young wife had an attractive younger sister, known as "The Belle of Boggestow," who very much desired to attend the Masonic Ball, to be held on St. John's Day, June 24th, 1826, but father, who was reputed to be her fiance, declined to accompany her (perhaps for financial or puritanic reasons), and to pique him,



she suggested the opportunity to a rival, who produced the necessary livery equipment and the pair drove by, the rival with a triumphant smile and she, with a toss of the head, while the deserted hero dangled his legs from a fence, where he was sitting, meditating over his vanished dream; however, his wits were working over-time and his loss was soon forgotten in the courtship begun in the Mason homestead overlooking Boggestow Pond, where lived that gentle and lovable maiden who became his wife. He, within two years, built the house on Norfolk Street, in Holliston, and installed her as mistress on his wedding day, where she reared her children. He had completed the shoe shop also, that employed all his energies in a succeeding half century of manufacturing usefulness.

Much might be written of my father's many accomplishments and eccentricities, but the limited time for an address on such an occasion as this demands an immediate close. Allow me to say, that during two score years of close acquaintance with him, I never heard of a dishonest act on his part, nor an unclean word from his lips. A simple and effective eulogy of this worthy quartet of pioneers may be found in a little quatrain of my boyhood days, which has just come back to memory, after more than a half century, and which I recited as my valedictory recitation, before a small audience, including an august school committee, preparatory to my entering the High School, in the Fall:

“John Littlejohn was stanch and strong,  
Upright and downright, scorning wrong;  
He gave good weight and paid his way;  
He thought for himself and said his say.”

\* \* \*

*In introduction of the following speaker, the Chairman said:*

Cutler has been a great name in Holliston for a century or two, Jonathan being the surname that prevailed in the family for several generations. One of these Jonathans was conspicuous in the history of his day as housing the Methodists in the infancy of that church. The cellar of his house is still to be seen on Underwood Street, overgrown by Balm of Gilead trees, which in certain seasons breathe their gentle perfume over the passerby. At the time of the Revolution, Col. Simeon Cutler appears to have been, if not the first, with the very first of our citizens. Among his immediate descendants are counted the Hon. Elihu Cutler, the father of the Hon. Elihu, Jr., the grandfather of Elbridge Jefferson and Arthur Hamilton, three generations of distinguished men. One of the descendants of



Col. Cutler was Simeon Morse Cutler, always known as Morse Cutler, who came to middle age at the time of the Civil War. In 1861 he was elected a member of the Board of Selectmen, became chairman in 1862, and served as such during the remainder of the war period. It was a most trying and laborious duty, and one who filled the place, with all its perplexities, as well as did Mr. Cutler, should not be forgotten in this Two Hundredth Anniversary. Deacon Uriel Cutler, his brother, was the senior deacon of the First Church here for many years and is remembered by ancient citizens of the town as an honored, intelligent and worthy citizen. The Cutler family is entitled to be heard, and I introduce Professor Uriel Waldo Cutler, of Worcester, a loyal son of the town and of Deacon Uriel Cutler.

\* \* \*

*Mr. Cutler's remarks were as follows:*

The foundations of the Present are in the Past. It is not vanity, on occasions like this, to test these foundations. It is only prudence to find out what foundations we of the Present have to build upon, the sort of structure these foundations were designed to receive. The qualities of those who established Holliston's traditions and of those who have begun the superstructure, so far as they have been worthy and intelligent builders, are our guides in shaping our plans; they stand as our supervising architects for such structure as we may raise. How those, on the very ground we tread, whether red men or white, worked and thought and loved and aspired affords a natural, an almost inevitable and very practical subject for thought and inquiry.

If, in response to the kind invitation of the Committee in charge of today's programme, I undertake to say a few words as a representative of the Cutlers of Holliston, it will not be done in order to gratify any family pride or to boast of any family achievement. I believe the Cutlers have done their work well in the Past, but they have looked forward to better things to come, "lest they, without us, should not be made perfect." But only as their high qualities may be representative of the spirit of the earlier citizenship of our town am I justified in calling your attention on this occasion to those of my stock, who, on these hills and meadows and along these streams, have finished their course and kept the faith.

My suggestion of the water-courses of Holliston brings to mind the mill-site near Metcalf Station developed by that vigorous, clear-headed, public-spirited progenitor of all the Holliston Cutlers, an historic spot, already dry and



deserted and unknown to most of us. Here Jonathan Cutler worked out his problem of existence, under conditions we should think intolerable, but he knew his work and he did it, in good Carlyle fashion, and what more can be expected or desired of any of us or by any of us? He it was who, alone at his mill one mid-winter day, slipping on the slanting run-way, was carried down through a hole and far out under the ice. His great strength of arm and force of will enabled him to swim about beneath the ice till he found the opening, and so, unaided, climbed out to day-light.

Like other families of our town, the Cutlers were generally loyal patriots in Revolution times, but there was one who was a non-resistant. When the officers came to confiscate his goods and take him to jail, he was asked, "Whose are these cattle in your pasture?" " 'Every beast of the forest is mine,' saith the Lord, 'and the cattle upon a thousand hills,' " was the ready reply of this diligent Bible reader. But he sacrificed his cattle, and died of prison fever a little later. This exception only emphasises the fact that this early family was rather conspicuously represented in the Revolution. In the later wars also, and in the responsibilities of public office the Cutler name has been by no means missing. We shall not cease to regret that the life of young James Cutler had to be so prematurely sacrificed, five years ago, in connection with the World War.

Another grand-son of the original Jonathan married Nabby Morse, from the next neighboring farm, a granddaughter of Deacon Timothy Leland, who, more than any other, should be remembered as a town father. This young husband and husbandman bought himself a farm on Brush Hill, in Sherborn. Thither, when ready to establish his home, he drove through the center of Holliston his wealth of cows and sheep and hogs, the numbers of which are no longer on record. A gossiping woman of the village, who might better have been at her work, whose name, like the numbers of the caravan, has been lost from the tradition, noted and counted from her kitchen door the passing procession. Twenty-seven years afterward, when this same Cutler had sold his Brush Hill farm and was moving back through Holliston, to occupy the ancestral home of his wife, left desolate by the death of Esq. Morse and his Leland wife in the same week, this same observant woman was at her door and made count of the very same numbers of livestock in the Cutler caravan as had been taken to Sherborn in 1809, and remarked upon the lack of increase. She failed to note, however, that seven children were brought back, and three were left behind in the little Brush Hill burying ground.



Incidents like these may seem trivial, but life is made up very largely of little things, and history is but life interpreted.

How well these early generations met their difficulties on these twenty square miles we call Holliston, on soil not especially favorable for those fundamental industries that yielded them a livelihood. But they accomplished their tasks, and that under circumstances that we of the Present could hardly face with the fortitude and poise they showed. They dug wells for us without dynamite for blasting or metal for piping. They made us roads without stone-crushers or steam-rollers, though they piled up the stones into stone-walls all ready for the crusher. They were poor roads, perhaps, but they served the purpose in an age when it had not been discovered that civilization required high-power devices for making murder easy and suicide a form of recreation. They usually lived to good age, as the inscriptions in the grave-yard show, without modern safety appliances and surgical skill, though one early Cutler was struck by lightning in her own kitchen door-way, with an iron sauce-pan in her hand.

The best of the whole story is the fact that these early Hollistonians made Character while making a living, made character through making a living as the means, for work well done is itself an essential means of education. Character is the end and aim of all work and worship, of profession and recreation and schooling.

“We are all blind until we see  
That in the human plan  
Nothing is worth the making, if  
It does not make the man.

Why build these cities glorious  
If man unbuilt goes?  
In vain we build the work, unless  
The builder also grows.”

—Edwin Markham

And character is contagious. A real case of the disease is pretty sure to be communicated. A Holliston Cutler, already inoculated with the germ, uncertain where he belonged in the social system, drifted, as a young man, into business in New York City. His firm soon failed, but he had meanwhile secured a wise friend in one of the city's eminent clergymen, who advised young Cutler, as a temporary matter till a new business opening appeared, to tutor a few boys for college examinations. Out of this small group of New York boys, under Arthur Hamilton Cutler, as tutor, grew a famous fitting school, and Theodore Roosevelt was its first graduate.



The blending of the Cutler name with the names of other Holliston families, through marriage, all down the decades has been an important fact in our local history. Reference has just been made to the connection with the Lelands, a connection that has repeated itself at least six times over in these two centuries of town biography. The intermarriage with the Morses, just over the line, as it then was into Medway, has also been suggested. Besides, into this Cutler stock has been merged the blood of the Perrys and Rockwoods and Littlefields and Loverings and Clarks and Travises and Bullards and Eameses and Danielses and Adamses and Fiskes and of many other familiar local names, to make up some of the strongest human forces in our local development. For it is the people that make a community, or mar it, rather than, chiefly, its natural resources. Holliston folks have been and are, for better or worse, the dominant fact about Holliston. Without means at hand for verifying any positive statement in this connection, I venture the thought that, probably, seventy-five years ago, there were more Cutlers on the voting list of Holliston than of any other family name. If history is the essence of innumerable biographies, then in studying for these few minutes the Cutlers of the Past, we are near the sources of Holliston history.

In 1847 the work of constructing the Milford Branch line of the Boston & Albany Railroad had progressed as far as Holliston. The great task of opening the deep cut brought to the town many new residents. A large number of new dwellings resulted, as well as a quickened spirit of progress, and it was the enterprise of a Cutler that provided these homes. It was this same Cutler who built the old Winthrop House, an ornament to the town in its day and calculated to be a very useful institution under proper management, sadly missed since its burning. The later attempt to supply the lack resulted in a far less dignified and appropriate structure, also burned, and the long unoccupied cellar-hole calls loudly for a generation of citizens with the enterprse of which James Cutler had abundance and of capital, which he lacked.

Contemporary with him was his oldest brother, Elihu, whose name is more to be honored than that of, perhaps, any other one man in our local history. He began his career in the wheelwright business of his father, Col. Simeon Cutler. In the spirit of his grand-father, of the old Metcalf Station mill, he manifested his mechanical ingenuity and his business capacity in the building up of several industries, using the water power at hand and giving employment to the growing population. He was, in his lifetime, given much of the recognition that was his due, a



rather unusual fact, for he was repeatedly elected to town offices and to both branches of the General Court. He was also a Trial Justice, and was entrusted with the settlement of many estates. He was a man of sound judgment, of dignity and poise and efficiency and integrity, such as any generation of any community may consider itself fortunate to have so freely and generously at its service.

Not many Cutlers have become preachers,—five or six, I think, conspicuously the gracious orator of this evening. They have practiced the Christian virtues, rather more than they have preached them, doing their full part in sustaining the institutions of religion at every opportunity. The Cutler name has not been made conspicuous by being before the Courts of Justice or in the sensational columns of the newspapers. Through the generations they have sent their quotas to college, and have known how to supplement such schooling as was available with such indispensable education as comes to an open and eager mind through the discipline of life well lived. One of the most intelligent and effective citizens Holliston has produced, one who gave a very efficient and right-minded daughter to be the wife of a Cutler of the second generation, could neither read nor write; yet he kept complicated accounts as an honored and trusted town officer and successful man of affairs.

There is one Cutler, still living, who, if able to be present at this Bicentennial observance, would enjoy much himself and could contribute largely to the interest of the exercises, because of his experience in the affairs of our time, as well as because of his historical knowledge and scholarly attainments. Unfortunately he has been called too soon back to his work as professor of history in the University of Porto Rico. I refer to Rev. Frederick Morse Cutler, Ph. D., who also holds the rank of Captain in the United States Army. He was born and educated in New York, but was much in Holliston in his boyhood. He should be cordially remembered on this occasion.

One of the college men Holliston has sent out to a high career was Elbridge Jefferson Cutler, grandson of Elihu Cutler, Esq., before mentioned. He won distinction as a Harvard professor and as a poet before his untimely death, in 1870. It would be stimulating to our patriotism to review here and now some of his war poems, in which he reveals much of his high thought and sincerity of feeling, and to think over his brief career as teacher and as student of life and letters. But I have no right to monopolize the minutes of this evening's programme to that extent. My school-boy memory goes vividly back to that awesome December day when he was borne from our Congregational Church to his burial in the near-by cemetery. I doubt if that historic



building has ever held a more eminent assembly of men of learning and character than came together to do honor to this townsman of ours. There has been placed in my hands a letter recently written by President-Emeritus Eliot, a classmate of Professor Cutler, in which he shows his warm and active appreciation of his qualities more than a half-century after his death, even though the professor of 1869 was inclined to oppose some of the new ideas of the then young college president. I can quote only two or three passages from this remarkable letter. "Professor Cutler was an admirable scholar and a conscientious, interesting and exact teacher, who commanded the respect and admiration of most of his students." "His mind like his body was delicate, dainty and sensitive. His mental and moral interests were deep and strong." "His life was short and full of fine promise, but not of fulfilment."

As already suggested, lives of individuals and of families of individuals become built into the spirit of the community past recovery as a personal matter. If you seek Cutler biography, look about you in the town whose development is in these days under review. Through Cutler migrations also the name and influence of Holliston has been broadcasted the country over. The special New England qualities of integrity, sound judgment, executive ability, independence in opinion, which I like to think of as Cutler qualities, have best manifested themselves in business careers near and far. Many of these it would be pleasant to recall at this time, but "what," Mr. Chairman, "shall I more say, for the time would fail me to tell of Gideon and of Barak, and of Samson, . . . and of the prophets, who . . . wrought righteousness, obtained promises, . . . out of weakness were made strong." Among these prophets we may include many in your family line, and in mine. Through them, the Past at least of Holliston is secure. What of the Future

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*Mr. Fisher, in introducing the next speaker, said:*

A grand veteran of the Grandest Army of the Republic is with us tonight. We do not propose to tell his age, but will give a hint which perhaps may be a guide. More than sixty-five years ago he took the star part in a pantomime in this very hall. We are sorry that arrangements for his birth in Holliston were not seasonably made. Hopkinton has the honor of being his birthplace, but he did not allow more than a year to pass before he adopted Holliston as his home, and he has been a loyal adopted son ever since. He served through the whole Civil War with distinction, and recently has been chosen Junior Vice Commander of the



Grand Army of the Republic in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. We salute Comrade Henry W. Comey, now of Danvers.

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*Capt. Comey gave the following reminiscences of old School days:*

In 1846 Unionville, a village in the east part of Hopkinton, was incorporated as the town of Ashland. A part of Holliston was included in the territory set off for Ashland, taking a large part of school district No. 1, as we shall see when we call the roll of the families in the district. It is of this school district that, as I recall it from the years 1844 to 1850, I shall speak.

The school house was the typical "Old Red" building, standing in the open forest. Across the road looking north was a large pasture, beyond which was the Holliston poor farm. There were no neighbors to watch and complain of any acts of the scholars, as we had later at the new school house at East Holliston. We had the whole range of the open woods for a playground. William Eames lived nearest—more than one-quarter of a mile away, and from there water was brought for use at the school. It was an ideal place for a school house.

The inside of the school house was not so cheerful. The seats and desks were in tiers on opposite sides. The girls sat on one side and the boys on the other, facing them. The back seats were higher and were occupied by the older scholars. There was a large cast-iron box stove in the center. The recitation platform extended across the rear.

The older boys attended school only in the winter and were sometimes older and larger than the teacher. In summer, very young children, two and three years old, were sent to school. Sometimes a kind hearted teacher would arrange to let the tired little ones sleep.

Adaliza Leland was the teacher during the first term in the new school house. We always had men teachers in winter and women in summer.

The roll call of parents and children was:

Andrew Allard. Children, Henry, Maria, and Albert Whittemore, who was adopted by his uncle and aunt, Versal Whittemore and wife.

Aaron Brigham. Children, Delia, Daniel, Martha, Alfred, and Alma.

James Bigelow. Children, James, Charles, Sophiah, and Eliza. Mr. Bigelow was killed in his repair shop by his necktie catching in a lathe.

John Broad lived on the hill road from Ashland to Holliston Centre.

Elbridge G. Comey. Children, Amanda, Aratus, Henry, Manlius, Mary, and Perley. The first three attended the old red school house.

John Dearth. "Old John," "young John," and son. John, senior, rode in a gig. Other children were Mary Ann, Adaline, and Elvira.

Elijah Dewing. Son, Elijah.

Cozzens, ———, name and location forgotten.

Elbridge Eames, son of Nathan and Cynthia, on the new road to Ashland. Children, George H., Mary Anne, and Mrs. Nell Thayer.

Joseph Eames, who lived near the Whitneys, on the Framingham road, had five fingers and five toes. He was a man of great strength and size.

Nathan Eames. Children, Ambrose, Elbridge, and Emerson. The mother was known as "Aunt Nathan."

William Eames, who lived in sight of the old school house. Children, Sarah Ann, Mary Frances, Albert, and perhaps Martha Ann.

Courtland Gallott, Lorenzo and Lambert, sons of Widow Gallott, lived at the end of the lane near the "Rack-etbow Road."

Calvin Follensbee was a New Hampshire "Hunker" Democrat. The father of the writer was a stanch Whig. They made boots in a little shop, on what is now the Brooksmont farm. The arguments carried on in that little shop, shoe knives accompanying the gestures, were fearful to my young sense of safety.

Daniel Rider. Children, Benjamin, George, and Jane. Daniel Rider and Elijah Dewing lived in the same house; half of the house only was painted.

James Taft lived on the Col. Sam Bullard farm. Children, James E., Sarah, Frederick, Sylvia, and Abby. Sarah married Levi Haven and was the mother of Mrs. Dickinson. James Taft lived to a ripe old age. His honest, Christian life has always been before me as an example, and oft reminds me of Burns' "Cotter's Saturday Night."

"From scenes like these Old Scotia's grandeur springs." Fine steers were his hobby and his strongest words, "I van."

Timothy Twitchell lived next beyond Elbridge Eames. His son, Justin, sat in the back row at the old school house. As a boy of five years, I saw Jim Taft washing Justin's face with hard, crusty snow. The seeming cruelty has never been forgotten by the boy now eighty-five.

Elbridge Whittemore. Sons, Elbridge and George.

Warren Whitney. Location of Whitney farm is well known. Whitney was a very large man. Joel was the son known to the writer.

The farm east of the James Taft place was occupied by



Emmons Force, a bachelor, then by Howard Forestall and son, George. Later, Alfred Cutler became the owner. The present owner is Alfred Gooch.

The old red school house district has been covered as well as memory serves. The time allotted the speaker is full and he will close with the hope that the errors and omissions will be excused.

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*In introducing the speaker of the evening, Mr. Fisher said:*

We have with us this evening a Holliston boy, born here in 1862, a Civil War baby, his father having made the supreme sacrifice at the battle of Glendale, early in that year. Happily his is the vigor of a strong middle age. His circulation is good, as may be understood from the mingling in his veins of the blood of the Rockwoods, the Cutlers, and the Whitings, three families which have accomplished much in the growth of Holliston. He grew to young manhood in this town among the girls and boys of his period. His early education was in our own public schools; he is a typical representative of the scholars who have gone forth from this town to help in the education of our neighbors. I take great pleasure in presenting Elbridge Cutler Whiting, temporarily of Sudbury, who will deliver the Historical Address on this occasion.

To this report of the Historical Discourse, Professor Whiting wishes to add the following preface:

This brief history of Holliston is dedicated to the citizens of the town by its author, a son of Holliston, who traces his ancestry back through those families who laid its foundations, and who helped build its noble structure. He wishes to acknowledge his indebtedness for the facts related herein to Judge Willis A. Kingsbury, Joseph H. Dewing, Mrs. Esther Fair, who placed at his disposal some of the treasures of the Historical Society, to the historical addresses of Rev. Messrs. Charles Fitch, Edmund Dowse, D.D. and Geo. M. Adams, D.D., also to the histories of Dr. Albert M. Blanchard, Rev. Geo. F. Walker and Morse's History of Holliston and Sherborn and to the historical papers of the late John M. Batchelder. If this bird's-eye view of the life of Holliston will help to make its sons and daughters better citizens, the author will feel well repaid for his work. E. C. W.



## A BRIEF HISTORY OF HOLLISTON FROM THE FIRST SETTLEMENT TO THE YEAR 1924



OUR task today is both pleasant and difficult. It is indeed pleasant to remember the doings of our ancestors. "*Haec olim meminisse juvabit.*" And it is also difficult because of the mists that gather around the records of antiquity. Traditions and facts are interwoven invariably in the warp and woof of history.

And yet notwithstanding these things we would be renegades in truth if we shrank from such a task. It has been well said, "Those only deserve to be remembered by posterity who treasure up the history of their ancestors."

I need not remind you that the citizens of Holliston have not been remiss in their observance of historical events. For nearly one hundred years, you have recalled the faith and works of your fathers by fitting and joyful observances. The Holliston Historical Society in recent years has gathered valuable material relating to the records of this noble town, in this illustrious county of Middlesex, in this wonderful state of Massachusetts.

The way has been prepared by reverent and loving hands and we are surrounded by a cloud of witnesses who have told the story again and again.

There are five periods in the life of Holliston, each of about fifty years' duration and I have named them:

1. The Prenatal Period
2. The Colonial Period
3. The Formation Period
4. The Uplift Period
5. The Modern Period.

Let us consider some of the outstanding events in each of these cycles of time.

## I. THE PRENATAL PERIOD.



HE Prenatal Period began when the first white man started to explore the streams and forests of this section of country. Probably John Eliot, the great apostle to the Indians, was one of the first as he went from settlement to settlement to tell the story of Jesus, the friend of the red and the white man alike. On the banks of Lake Wennakeening (Pleasant Smile) now known as Lake Winthrop, his voice was raised in prayer and worship, and praying bands of Indians to the number of one thousand were formed before Eliot finished his course and received his crown of righteousness.

After him came the two Adams' taking possession of portions of this garden of Eden, but unlike their namesakes, they stayed and tended their flocks and tilled the ground. Jasper Adams gave his name to the rock and hill near the center of the town. On the flat rock he built fires to signal to his father, Lieutenant Henry Adams of Medfield, that all was well with him and with his cattle.

Meadow lands and cedar swamps were the magnets that drew settlers away from the coast to the interior. The open spaces of meadows gave succulent food for cattle and the cedar swamps furnished lumber of lasting quality for fences and stockades. Was it a Holliston lad who said that "Cedar posts would last a hundred years; father has tried it a good many times"? No man could subsist without these natural meadows and cedar swamps.

Grants of land in the interior were given by the authorities to men who had been of service to the community or to those who had braved death to survey the country. Major Eleazer Lusher, land commissioner, had received such a grant in this section and in 1660 he sold a portion of it to Lieutenant Adams. In the same year the son of Governor Winthrop with a partner received another grant of 700 acres bounded westerly by Lake Wennakeening, which name was changed to Winthrop in honor of the owner.

William Sheffield acquired six hundred acres and to this he added three



thousand which he obtained from the Indians. Adams and Sheffield were the only occupiers of this region until the incorporation of Sherborn in 1674. The genealogy of Holliston is as follows: Sixteen years after the landing of the Pilgrims Dedham was founded in 1636. Twelve and one-half years later Dedham begat Medfield. Twenty-five years from 1649, Medfield begat Sherborn, and fifty years from 1674 Sherborn begat Holliston in 1724. Twelve and one-half, twenty-five, and fifty years—a geometrical progression—and always progress to the birth of our own town.

Two factors hindered the earlier settlement of this region. The threatening war of 1676 under King Phillip prevented timid men from taking possession of the lands, and although Eliot had converted many of the Indians, they did not have enough influence to stay the wave of violence which swept through eastern Massachusetts resulting in the destruction of thirteen towns, six hundred men in battle and the slaughter of innocent women and children. Lieut. Adams was murdered at the door of his own home. Capt. Wadsworth and Lieutenant Brocklebank together with twenty-nine men were slaughtered on the hills of Sudbury. The other factor to prevent early settlements was the unfavorable report made by a committee of explorers sent out from Boston to inspect the land. They reported that the land probably would never be occupied much beyond Newton. They were men of little faith, but they have descendants even to the present day.

At the beginning of the eighteenth century a few families resided in this precinct of Sherborn, a town twelve miles in length, but they were a hardy lot of pioneers and their wives were cheerful helpers in the subjugation of the wilderness. Some of them had come "from a paradise of plenty and pleasure into a wilderness of wants," but that very fact was making them men and women of faith and of power. God was sifting the chaff from the wheat in preparation for the birth of a town.

The names of Leland, Bullard, Morse, Hill, Perry and Goulding are mentioned as settlers at this time, but to build homes in this section at that period meant the separation of families from the church and the school, a distance of many miles. I used to think when a boy that the road through the woods from Holliston to Sherborn was a long and fearful journey but what must it have been over two hundred years ago! The church in Sherborn was placed at the extreme eastern end of the town. Each settler was required to cut and carry one-half cord of wood to the house of the minister, and to transport their families by ox cart or on horseback to the church each Sabbath day a distance of

from five to ten miles. Sherborn was about to erect a new meeting house which meant the taxation of every family, no matter how far they lived from the church. An effort was made to have the building placed nearer the center but after due consideration it was seen that another meeting house must be erected to accommodate all the inhabitants. An amicable spirit prevailed and it was voted to grant to the inhabitants west of Doppin brook their proportion of 160 pounds toward the building of a new church or public meeting house as they called it, whenever the western inhabitants were ready to proceed.

Thirteen heads of families, all but five in this section, petitioned the General Court that they might erect a meeting house nearer their homes. Until the year 1664 in order to be a freeman and a voter, one must be a member in good and regular standing of some Congregational church. The General Court granted their request not only to build a house of worship but also passed an Act of Incorporation for a new town. This act provided that the inhabitants of this region should build a meeting house within eighteen months and call a minister as soon as possible, and they must also maintain a schoolmaster to instruct the youth in reading, writing and arithmetic. The petition was signed by Jonathan Whitney, Timothy Leland, Aaron Morse, Moses Adams, Joseph Johnson, Ebenezer Pratt, Gershom Eames, John Goulding, Joshua Underwood, Thomas Jones, Isaac Adams, John Twitchell and John Larnite. The petition was granted the third of December 1724 and thus we pass to the second period.

## II. THE COLONIAL PERIOD.



WHEN Holliston was incorporated in 1724, the qualifications for voting were—males not less than twenty-one years of age, owning real estate yielding three pounds per year or personal estate valued at sixty pounds. He must have two certificates, one from a clergyman, stating that he was orthodox in religion and not vicious in his life and the other from the selectmen that he was a freeholder according to the above standard.

Holliston was named in honor of Thomas Hollis of London, a patron of Harvard College, and he graciously responded by giving the town an elegant folio Bible with the inscription, "The Gift of Thomas Hollis of London, Merchant, To the Meeting-house in Holliston." This Bible is preserved in a shrine made like a massive book and kept in a safe in the Congregational church.



For the first town meeting, held at Timothy Leland's house, December 21, 1724, John Goulding, a leading citizen, had been empowered to call together the inhabitants qualified to vote, and he was chosen moderator and later with four others, Wm. Sheffield, Ebenezer Hill, Jonathan Whitney and Thomas Marshall was chosen selectman. Goulding was also selected as clerk and Isaac Bullard constable. Thirteen persons signed the petition for separation and these four others added who were selected as officers of the town composed practically all the heads of families in this district, the population being about 100 persons or six people to a family.

Within two weeks, January 4, 1725, another town meeting was held and it was voted to erect a Meeting House for the purpose of worshiping God on the Lord's day. At a third meeting, January 25, an appropriation of one hundred pounds was made towards the erection of a Meeting House, forty by thirty-two feet and twenty feet in height. The location seemed to be a source of perplexity, but it was finally located with the approval of Colonel Browne of Salem, who had donated the land, near this very spot where we are now gathered and enough land was set apart for a burying ground which has remained to this day.

In November of this same year 1725 it was voted to have the "Word" preached in Colonel Browne's new house until the Meeting House should be fit for use. The building was not entirely completed until 1731 and cost three hundred and fifty pounds or about \$166. It was a very plain structure, but it served its purpose after its enlargement in 1772 for nearly one hundred years. The building was finished sufficiently in 1727 to allow the town meeting to be held within its walls and on the 20th of June a town meeting was held and it was voted to choose Mr. James Stone of Newton, a graduate of Harvard to be the Gospel Minister in Holliston at a salary of seventy-five pounds, with a settlement of one hundred pounds, the salary to be increased as the population increased. Mr. Stone waited five months before replying and he said that while he was inclined to accept their invitation to be the Gospel Minister of Holliston, he was in doubt as to the salary being sufficient for his support.

A committee was appointed to address Judge Samuel Sewall of Boston who owned a tract of two hundred acres in the town to see if he would give a piece of land toward the settlement of a minister. Judge Sewall had been one of three judges who had presided in the trials of the witches of Salem and Boston. This delusion had been prevalent thirty-five years before and ere it had died away twenty people had been condemned and

put to death as witches. Judge Sewall later became convinced of his great error and he publicly asked pardon of God and man in a paper read to the congregation of the Old South Church in Boston on Fast Day, January 14, 1697. From that time on Judge Sewall devoted his entire life to doing works meet for repentance, and became noted for his charity and philanthropy. And so it came about, quite fortunately, that Judge Sewall and his children conveyed to the committee in trust eleven acres of land "for the sole proper use, benefit, and behoof of the first Orthodox, Congregational or Presbyterian minister of the Gospel which shall be settled in the said town of Holliston and to his heirs and assigns forever." These eleven acres included land where the Hollis House once stood. Besides this gift, the people subscribed more money so that Mr. Stone finally accepted the offer to become the minister of the town. In those days, being a college graduate, he was "The Person" of the community, or as some would say in their peculiar brogue "The Parson."

The next step to be taken by the town was the formation of the church. On Thursday, October 31, 1728, Old Style or November 11, New Style, seven men together with the Pastor-elect subscribed to a solemn covenant with God and one another. The seven men who founded the church were the same seven together with six others who founded the town: Rev. James Stone (the pastor), William Sheffield, John Goulding, Jonathan Whitney, Timothy Lealand, Isaac Bullard, Thomas Marshall, and Edmund Morse. They, with the exception of the pastor, came from the church in Sherborn. A few weeks later, the wives of these men joined the new church. A description of these men can be found in different printed discourses, especially the one by Rev. Geo. M. Adams, delivered at the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the Congregational Church.

The town had voted that the seventh day of November should be set apart as a day of fasting for the purpose of gathering and settling a church in said town and that Wednesday, the twentieth of the same month should be the day, with God's leave, for the ordaining of the Rev. Mr. Stone. Therefore on November 20, 1728, a gathering of grave and reverent men, pastors, and delegates from neighboring churches, clothed in knee breeches, with buckled shoes and powdered wigs and three cornered hats met together at Col. Browne's house in an ecclesiastical council to consider the advisability of ordaining Rev. Mr. Stone as pastor. The church, having been formed thirteen days before this in the house of Timothy Lealand, had a right to call this council. After due deliberation the council voted to proceed and in the afternoon of the



same day these same solemn men marched in a dignified manner to the new building to ratify the action of the town in forming a church on November 7, 1728 and to approve of the calling of the Rev. Mr. Stone to be the Minister of the town, and to install him into this sacred office. The town in four years had increased in population to one hundred and fifty souls. As yet there was no village and only thirty farm houses were scattered here and there over the town, but Holliston was now well and honorably started on a life that would redound to its own honor and that of the nation.

Holliston was founded on the Rock of Ages and must erect a structure not wholly made with hands.

In the church building for nearly one hundred years the town held its meetings for the transaction of business, for the social gatherings and for public worship on the Lord's day. This could be done because the people at that time were for the most part of the same blood and of the same religion. While this could not be done in these days and while some may regret the wide differences of opinion, yet we may rejoice that down deep in the hearts of men the same fundamentals of life are abiding, and after all we are all brothers one to another in the real things of life.

In the act of incorporation of the town it provides not only for the support of a church and minister, but the people were required to procure and maintain a schoolmaster for the instruction of the youth. In 1731 money was granted for the support of public schools and in 1738 the town was divided into three districts, the North, the West and the Central and the inhabitants were assessed one hundred pounds for the erection of a building in each district, but each man might work out his own assessment. In 1801 the three districts had grown to eight and in 1807 the first school committee was chosen: Dr. Timothy Fiske, Lieut. Elijah Watkins and Capt. John Haven and the grant for school purposes was \$500. In 1911 the grant was \$10,559 and July 7, 1924, at a special town meeting, an appropriation of \$42,500 was made just to construct and remodel an addition to the High School building. It is a long step from the old days when a child could go to school as early as his parents chose and continue as long as he liked. There was no high school in the colonial days and the schools kept only twelve weeks in winter and ten weeks in summer, the shorter term being almost wholly for the girls and younger boys.

The first fifty years of the life of the town was a comparatively quiet period, excepting toward its close. The inhabitants wanted to see the

town grow, but they believed in quality rather than quantity, and they did not care for a mixed and corrupt population. At one time they raised money to encourage and aid the removal of certain families to Canada, and at others, expelling immoral and licentious individuals and families that had crept into their territory and were polluting their soil. They wanted unity of spirit, even though they had to use the rigour of the law. There is this to be said in justice to the memory of our fathers: They were attempting something on this continent that had never been tried before in all the history of the world. They were seeking to build up a form of government of justice and equality, which would be established by the people themselves. A democracy pure and simple without kings or despotic rulers to oppress them and to build a church that would find its authority in God, through membership in the local body. It was in self defense that they expelled certain individuals and companies of people from their midst. They wanted to see if they could do a certain thing that wise men all over the world had said could not be done. The reason they laid so much stress on education and religion was because they were firmly convinced that the kind of government and church they were trying to establish on these western shores could not be built in any other way. Later on when affairs became more settled these men and their posterity were liberal enough to allow others to come and live their lives on a somewhat different basis.

There was one event in these first fifty years of the life of the town that made a great impression on the people. It was what they called the Great Sickness. At the close of 1753 and the beginning of 1754 a peculiar form of sickness fell upon the community and within six weeks fifty-three people, nearly half being heads of families, died of the fatal malady. This sudden stroke in a population of four hundred people caused great lamentation and mourning. Several families were entirely broken up and at one time there were not enough well persons to care for the sick and to bury the dead. If it had happened in this day of scientific research, probably some rational explanation would have been found, but in that early period before the age of science the cause was laid at the door both of God and man. Some said it was the hand of God as a punishment for the sins of the people; others said that the quarrels that had arisen between the peoples and especially between two of the principal men of the town, who were engaged in a lawsuit over a most trifling matter, had brought this curse upon the town. At any rate from that time to the present, I know of no town that has had so few disputes in law as the town of Holliston and a lawyer in Holliston ought



to be pensioned, if he wants to get a living for his family. And so out of this disaster there came peace and concord, which have prevailed for over one hundred and fifty years.

The life of the colonies was greatly hindered by the treatment which was received at the hands of the Parliament of Great Britain. The statesmen of both France and England accepted the same theory about the use of colonies, namely, that they were to be used to enrich the countries which possessed them. With this theory in their minds the Parliament began to persecute the colonies with petty taxations, and to restrict their trade on every hand. Freemen who had learned to rule themselves and to establish governments and churches on their own responsibility could not stand these oppressive acts. Massachusetts was foremost in her stand against tyranny.

Samuel Adams, James Otis and others kept the towns of the colony informed as to what was being done, and sought their co-operation in every measure proposed. Holliston was not slow in swinging into line. Military stores had begun to be collected as early as 1731. Military companies were formed for training in the use of arms. Minute-men volunteered to take up arms at the sounding of the bell. Holliston voted to raise more hemp, flax and wool and to lessen superfluities. She sent delegations to Boston and Concord to attend conventions to deliberate on what action to take. She signed a pledge not to buy or use any goods of British manufacture until the so-called Boston Port Bill should be abolished. The town passed a resolution setting forth the rights of the colonies and the infringement of them by the British nation. At a convention in Concord, August 30, 1774, attended by Holliston delegates the question was raised "Shall we be content to be the most abject slaves of Great Britain and entail that slavery on posterity, or by a manly, just and virtuous opposition assert and support our freedom?" "No danger shall affright, no difficulties intimidate us; and if in support of our rights we are called to encounter death, we are yet undaunted, sensible that he can never die too soon who lays down his life in support of the laws and liberties of his country."

These resolutions were adopted by an almost unanimous vote, and sent to the Continental Congress in Philadelphia and highly applauded by the delegates and that body unanimously declared its approval of the acts, and its sympathy with the suffering people of Massachusetts.

The last town meeting held in Holliston under King George's name was May 13, 1776. The next town meeting was held in the name of God and the people of Massachusetts.

Our fathers were ready to march to Concord and Lexington but the British retreated so precipitously that the minute men did not have their opportunity, but they were present at the battle of Bunker Hill and witnessed the evacuation of the British from Boston as they were drawn up on Dorchester Heights with Washington's Army.

Of course we find in every war malcontents, critics, non-sympathizers with the sacrifices of those who give their best for a noble cause. Holliston was not exempt and a few citizens were found of this kind. Local committees were appointed to see that everybody should do his part and lists of people were posted who refused to obey the restrictions laid upon the community. Acts of disloyalty were uncovered. In a document in possession of Mr. Joseph Dewing, five men of the town, whose names are connected with some of the best families, are mentioned as being suspected of disloyal acts. They were held in the sum of one hundred pounds each which they were to forfeit if they conducted themselves politically in a suspicious manner or in any way tried to counteract the struggles of the United States for liberty. They were warned not to aid directly or indirectly or abet the enemies of this country or communicate any intelligence to them or to persuade any person from opposing the enemies of the land. Some of these men must have fully repented for afterward they were elected to public office.

The number of men who enlisted from this town in the war of the Revolution was 248 out of a population of 800 people. Captain John Lealand, Capt. Staples Chamberlain, Lieut. Jacob Miller, Capt. Daniel Eames, Colonel Abner Perry, Colonel Simeon Cutler, Aaron Phipps, Thomas Russell, Daniel Mellen, Abner Johnson, Joseph Bigelow, Joshua Hemingway, Timothy Rockwood and Dr. Edward Durant, an army surgeon, were a few of the brave men who showed their patriotic spirit. Holliston was called upon for blankets, coats, underwear, money and men and it required a resourceful spirit to meet all the demands of this war for liberty.

These were our ancestors, vigorous, prompt, energetic, hardy toilers, courageous, manly men of whom the world was not worthy.

John Quincy Adams, the sixth President of the United States once said of them, "I would rather have one drop of Puritan blood in my veins than all the blood that ever flowed in the veins of kings and princes."

We come now to the third period in the life of Holliston.



### III. THE PERIOD OF FORMATION.



THE formative period of a town is the period when influences are at work to determine its future character. What kind of a town is Holliston to be? Will it remain a farming community? Will it be a mere village with few inhabitants and scattered houses along one main street? Will it be an industrial center, with busy factories, and stores and markets and warehouses? Will it be an aristocratic center, a rich man's town with beautiful houses and large estates? The next fifty years were to determine its character and to give an answer to these questions. They were quiet years, but years when men and women were growing in their ability to do; when men's minds were enlarging, when new forces were beginning to stir people to action. The population increased very slowly, there was only a gain of one hundred and fifty people in forty-five years, but the people were busy and the world was entering a new day. It was the beginning of the age of science, of new inventions, of new means of transportation.

The war of 1812 was unpopular with the people of Massachusetts. Holliston expressed her disapproval of it, and no company of men marched forth from the town to battle with the enemy. If any persons went forth from Holliston, they went as individuals and not in the name of the town. Dr. Fitch in his one hundredth anniversary address delivered only fourteen years afterwards does not speak one word in regard to it. Dr. Dowse in his Centennial Address of July 4, 1876 passes over it entirely and so does Dr. Adams in his historical address delivered in 1878.

In the colonial days, corn and grist mills had been erected along the streams, but previous to 1793, most of the people were engaged in reclaiming and tilling the land. The shoemaker, blacksmith, carpenter and storekeeper settled here only to meet the wants of the people and no more of that class of people were desired. Even these cultivated the land to meet the needs of their families.

In 1793 Colonel Ariel Bragg began the making of shoes. He may be called the father of this industry, which became a very flourishing business in the town, with the Bullards, the Rockwoods, the Batchelders, Currier, Littlefield, Johnson, Stone and Driscolls engaging in it, until at one time, 1874, a business of \$1,000,000 a year was developed and over 600 men and women employed. In 1815 a woolen mill was erected near the junction of the Bogistow and Jarr brooks. In the same year a cloth industry, under the name of the Holliston Cloth Co. Hon. Elihu Cutler

was greatly interested in the progress of his native town and helped many enterprises to settle here. In 1814 he formed a company and erected the first mill for the manufacture of thread; this afterward became the factory of W. L. Payson for the manufacture of wood finish, church pews and settees. The manufacture of straw goods began in 1815, and was carried on by the Lelands, afterwards by Thayer, Slocum, Thompson, Mowry, Rogers & Co.

As we study this period ending with the first century, we find that the character of the town was undergoing a change. Everything pointed to the development of Holliston into an industrial center, which afterwards it did become. But it was to be an industrial community surrounded by farms and groups of men who tilled the soil. Holliston then was fast becoming a center for manufacture, with farmers on the circumference of the town to retain its old time features. Farming and manufacturing are good industries to have in the same town and this is what the formative period did: It combined the two in harmonious relations. The close of the first century saw the erection of a new meeting house and the town well launched on its most prosperous period.

Dr. Fitch said in his address delivered to celebrate the first one hundred years, "The century, which at its commencement saw this town an infant and feeble settlement, sees it at its close populous, wealthy and respectable. May the century which has opened upon you so favorably see you through subsequent generations a united, holy and happy people, whose God is the Lord."

We now come to the

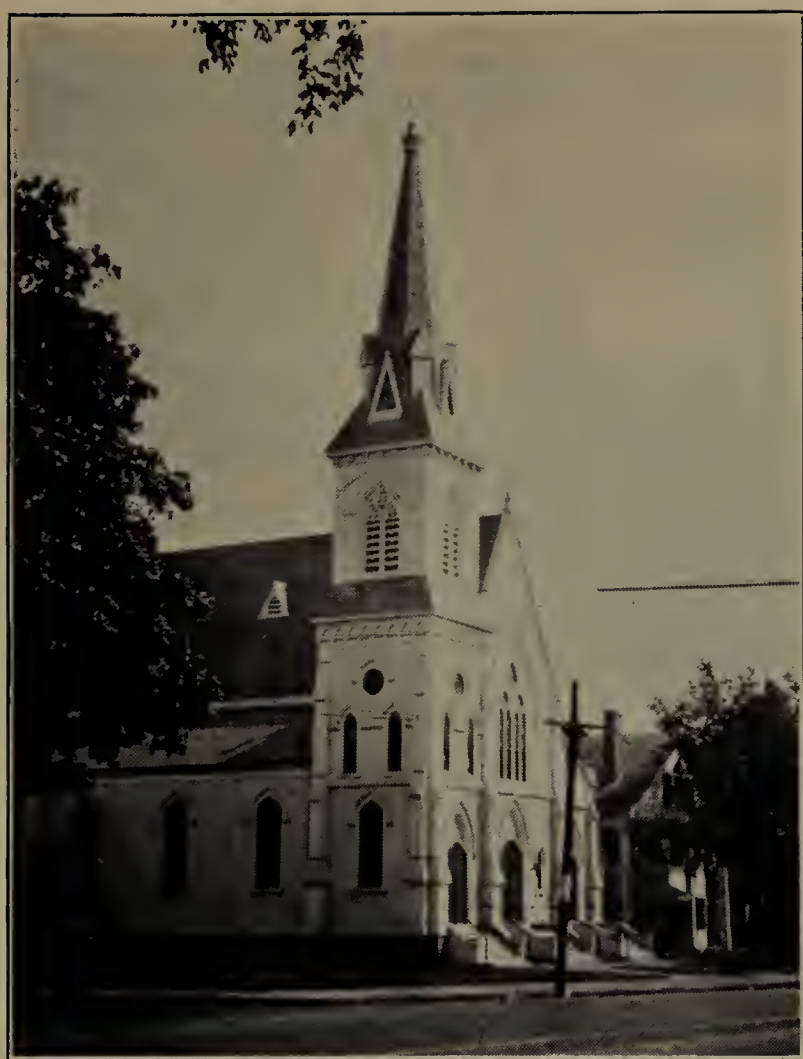
#### IV. PERIOD OF UPLIFT.



THE next fifty years from 1824 to 1874 was a period when the town was uplifted in its material, intellectual and spiritual life; we may call it also the Golden Age of the town. The closing ten years of the first century had seen many new enterprises started in the town and many of these became a great source of profit to the entire community. The four Batchelders came down from New Hampshire and began the manufacture of boots; William, Benjamin, John and George, each man putting himself into the life of the town. Honesty was the key-note of their lives and each was honored with a large degree of prosperity.

The town began to grow as never before. It gained in ten years as much as in thirty years of the first century and from 1830 to 1850 the





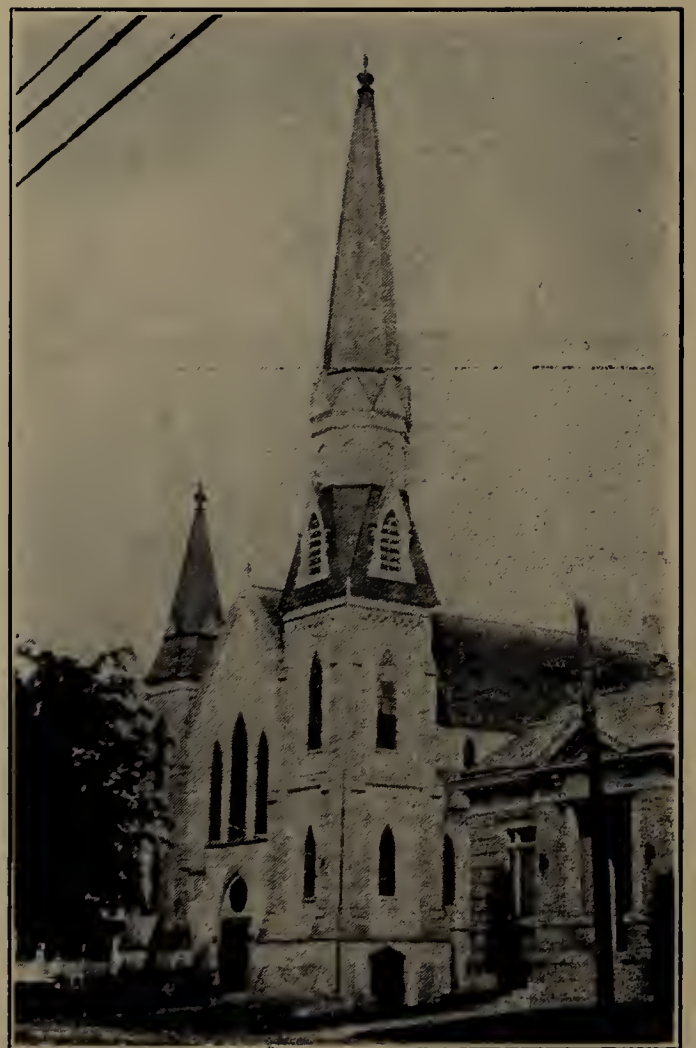
ST. MARY'S CHURCH

METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH





CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



BAPTIST CHURCH



population almost doubled. A comb factory was started in 1834. A coach lace plant by Littlefield in 1827. A copper pump factory by Houghton in 1837 and carried on by the Wilders most successfully for many years. In 1866 a nail factory was successfully launched by Stetson and Talbot, and proved to be a great help to the town, and with these other factories which were started along in 1814 and 1815, the town received a new impetus. It was a great change and wonderful to see this quiet town of the first century transformed into an industrial center.

Of course this brought about other changes; the tide of life coming into this town compelled the people to look at affairs in a different light from their ancestors. No longer could church and town do business together. There were people here now who believed in a different form of church government from the Congregational. The church and town separated forever in 1836. The Methodists had erected a house of worship in 1833. The Universalist Society organized a church in 1839. The Congregational Church came near to being divided into the Orthodox and Unitarian branches had it not been for the wisdom and good spirit of Hon. Elihu Cutler. The Baptist Church was started in 1860 and built a church in 1870. The Roman Catholic Church gathered into its fold all those of its faith in 1867 and finally dedicated a substantial house of worship in 1879. In 1864 an Episcopal Society was founded and continued for five years. In 1838 thirty people went out from the Congregational Church and joined the Mormons, among them Albert Perry Rockwood who went to Illinois and Missouri and was sent with a few others to Utah to spy out the land for a Mormon State. He must have been a man of iron to be able to go through the deserts and over the mountains at such an early date. It was in this period that all the churches received an impetus that brought them to their highest state of efficiency. In the first hundred years, the one church of the town had only four ministers; in the second hundred years nearly one hundred ministers were called to the different Protestant churches of the town and in spite of this fact, Holliston still lives.

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When the Boston and Worcester railroad was opened in the third decade of the nineteenth century, Holliston with its infant industries desired to have connection with it, and July 4, 1847 was an auspicious day for the town, as the first locomotive with a train of cars came into this region. It meant new life in many directions.

The awful famine in Ireland had driven millions of Irishmen to these shores, and the building of the railroads had been the means of giving the men plenty of work. In driving the railroad through the cut in

Phipps Hill hundreds of these worthy toilers were employed. It was natural that many Irish families should settle in Holliston. They built comfortable homes here and settled down to happy and prosperous days. It was the first real influx that Holliston had received of a people differing in religious doctrines, and in race and temperament. But the influx of the Irish proved to be of great benefit to the town. Like the natives, they were not ashamed to work with their hands and they helped to build up our industries, comported themselves for the most part with propriety and were a very important factor in the uplift of the community. Many of the Irish families have sent forth young men and women into the world who have been of great assistance to society. Father Quinlan, the first shepherd of the Irish flock, labored here many years, served on the school committee and was respected alike by both Protestants and Catholics. Priests, doctors, lawyers, teachers and business men from these families have contributed to the welfare of the community and nation.

The uplift of the town not only is seen in the industries and in the religious life of the community, but it is distinctively manifested in the educational life. Many of our ancestors were self educated men after being drilled in the rudiments. In the beginning of the second century schools and colleges were being considered as necessary to higher education. The ministers of the town had all been educated in the colleges of New England, either Harvard, Yale, Dartmouth or Brown, and they had awakened a desire in many of the young for a higher education. Lyceums, lectures, debating clubs, and even spelling matches were helping in this direction. Science and Politics were extremely fruitful subjects for debate. The slavery question was causing men to think deeply. Daniel Webster, the senator from Massachusetts, was helping people to read up on subjects that were of more than passing interest. Rev. Mr. Wheaton delivered a stirring sermon on "The Equality of Mankind and the Evils of Slavery," Fast Day, April 6, 1820, and all these things were helping people to become more and more interested in education. In 1831 the Holliston High School was organized, with William Gammell the teacher, who afterward became full Professor of History and Political Economy in Brown University, a position he held until 1864. Then Messrs. Ayer, Forbes, Tiffany and Stone filled the position until the fall of 1836 when Rev. Gardner Rice became principal for one term. He was so successful that he was induced to continue in this position for nine years. The school took the name of Holliston Academy in 1839. Mr. Rice began the school with seventy-six students and before the year



closed one hundred and seventy-six were enrolled, pupils coming from surrounding towns as well as from Holliston. In 1842 the number was three hundred and sixty-one. The purpose of the Academy was to fit pupils for the common business of life, or for a higher course of collegiate or professional studies. The conference of the New England Methodists recognized the importance of the school and became a patron of it. Pupils came from all over New England and even from the Middle States. Rev. Gardner Rice was an educator by birth; a graduate of Wesleyan University and a student one year at the Newton Theological School. He was remarkably successful in the building up of Holliston Academy. At a reunion in 1875 nearly forty years after, two hundred former students honored him by a visit to his home in Shrewsbury and renewed their acquaintance with each other and told how Holliston Academy had influenced their lives for good.

About two thousand pupils attended this Academy during its existence. Hardly any of them are now living. One, Frances M. Whiting, a teacher in the Holliston public schools for over thirty years, is still with us, living in Belmont, Massachusetts, a woman ninety-five years of age and in good health and spirits. She remembers those schools days of long ago. Of course such an Academy as this would give a good name to Holliston, and it might have been a permanent institution if some wealthy man had given it a fair endowment. The school was kept in the Town Hall until Mt. Hollis Seminary was dedicated in 1851. A number of public spirited men had given nine acres of land for a school and Deacon Timothy Walker and Rev. Geo. F. Walker helped to erect the building, by raising the money as a corporation. Rev. Mr. Walker, a native of the town, had been to Master Rice's school and was greatly interested in educational work. He became the principal of the Seminary for a short time and afterward entered the ministry. He wrote the History of Holliston in Drake's History of Middlesex County and was a man highly esteemed by his pupils and his parishioners.

The town had paid for the tuition of its scholars in the Seminary until 1863 when it purchased the Seminary building, and then used it for a High School until its destruction by fire in 1871. Another High School was built on the same spot in 1874, and additions have been made to the building from time to time as the town grew in size.

One of the most distinguished men from Holliston in the educational world was Elbridge Jefferson Cutler. His grandfather, Hon. Elihu Cutler had helped develop Holliston from a scattering village of a few hundred people to a real town of three thousand inhabitants. His great grand-

father was Col. Simeon Cutler of Revolutionary fame, the husband of Elizabeth Rockwood, a woman of remarkable ability, who lived to be 96 years of age. Prof. Cutler's father was called "the first gentleman of Holliston." Elbridge Cutler attended Holliston Academy, under Master Rice, but later fitted for Harvard under the tutorship of Rev. T. D. P. Stone, pastor of the Congregational Church. He graduated in 1853 with Pres. Eliot in the same class. He was chosen class poet and wrote a remarkable poem for the class day exercises. Teaching in private and public schools he won the affection of all his pupils. There are men and women in town today who remember his fine qualities as a teacher and who received their inspiration from him when he was the principal of the Academy here.

Judge Kingsbury, a former pupil of Mr. Cutler, has written a very fine sketch of his life and it is on file in the Holliston Historical rooms.

Mr. Cutler's associations were with the prominent teachers and poets of the nineteenth century. For a time he was on the editorial staff of the *New York Evening Post* with Wm. Cullen Bryant. Henry Wadsworth Longfellow, Oliver Wendell Holmes, James Russell Lowell and Prof. Francis Peabody counted him among their friends.

Intensely patriotic he was greatly interested in raising a company of volunteers at the beginning of the Civil War and fully expected to be captain of the company from Holliston. It was a cruel blow to him, when he returned to the town on the night before the departure of the company and found they had chosen another man for that position. His patriotism did not wane but sensitive in spirit, he confined himself to books and writing for a year. He had been invited to deliver a poem before the Phi Beta Kappa Society at Harvard, a great honor and offered only to a few scholars of high rank. The poem was read by Prof. Cutler at Harvard a few days before the disastrous battle of Bull Run. Prof. Peabody says, "This was a remarkable production, both in itself considered and in its effect on those who heard it; it was not surpassed, if equalled by any other of his productions. It has the genuine flavor of classical culture. It was from the beginning to the end, throbbing and glowing with patriotic feeling, earnest, intense, noble, grand. Many of those who heard him shortly afterward enlisted from the University in the national army."

*"Wake, sons of heroes—wake! The age  
Of heroes dawns again.  
Truth takes in hand her ancient sword  
And calls her loyal men."*



He was appointed Assistant Professor of Modern Languages at Harvard in 1865, while he was studying in Europe. It was no small honor to this son of Holliston to be intimately associated with the brilliant group of scholars at the University at that time. He was also asked to become President of the University of Missouri and Rev. Edward Everett Hale told me that Prof. Cutler would have been selected as President of Harvard had his health permitted. He became full Professor of Modern Languages in 1870 at Harvard but now was too feeble to enter upon his duties. He passed into the higher life on December 27, 1870 in Old Holworthy Hall, a young man of great promise, not having attained his fortieth birthday. Funeral services were held in the home of President Eliot and the next day were continued in the Congregational church in Holliston and attended by an illustrious company of scholars and devoted friends. The poem he wrote for a friend's funeral was sung at his own and concluded with these words:

*"Farewell, our brother!  
Not thankless tears we shed;  
Knowing, brother, knowing  
Thou art not dead."*

Holliston should keep fresh in memory this noble son of the town, in order that her youth may rise to heights of power.

His brother, Arthur Hamilton Cutler, also reflected great credit on the town. A graduate of Harvard, he opened a private school for boys in New York City, his first pupil being Theodore Roosevelt, afterwards President of the United States. Boys from his school entered Harvard, Yale, Princeton and Columbia for many years without conditions.

Another prominent son of the town was William A. Houghton, Professor in Bowdoin College for many years. For five years he was adviser of the Japanese Government in Tokio, Japan.

Arthur Irving Fiske, also a graduate of Harvard was Headmaster of the Boston Latin School for nearly his whole life. A remarkable teacher and inspirer of youth. Dr. Eliot says, "He was an admirable scholar, a man of gentle and winning manners and as Headmaster he exerted the best possible influence on his pupils."

Charles B. Travis, another illustrious son was a master in Boston English High School for many years and made a profound impression upon those who came under his instructions.

George Gilbert Pond was born in Holliston in 1861, graduated from its High School in 1877, received the degree of A.B. from Amherst in 1881, taught in the Holliston High School one year, then became an

assistant in Chemistry at Amherst College for five years and was full Professor of Chemistry in the Pennsylvania State College for over twenty-five years. That college desired him to take the Presidency, but he declined, and died in full vigor of his powers.

Otis Brigham Bullard, a native of Holliston, was teacher of vocal and instrumental music in the Holliston Academy and other schools and afterwards went to Washington, D. C. and became the founder of the Conservatory of Music in that city.

There are many other Holliston men and women who have gone out into the educational world. Some of them like Miss Lizzie Wilder and Miss Frances Whiting who helped to make their own town schools better, some of them like Miss Adela Rockwood, have taught in the best schools of our best towns and cities, and some now living are teaching in Worcester Institute of Technology, in the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, in Wellesley, Smith and other higher institutions of learning and all are reflecting much credit on Holliston.

Holliston can take much satisfaction as it looks over its long lists of men and women, who were born within her borders and have gone out into the world to become Ministers, Priests, Judges, Lawyers, Doctors, Teachers, Professors, Scientists, Explorers, Inventors, Merchants, Builders, some living and doing splendid work, others who wrought nobly having passed into the world beyond. Surely we are surrounded by a great cloud of witnesses to the value of education and religion. Who follows in their train?

These men and women were products of the Age of Uplift in Holliston's history.

The firing on Fort Sumter produced the same explosion of patriotism in Holliston as in every community throughout the land. Party ties were forgotten in the common indignation against the attack upon our flag. With a firm reliance on the protection of Divine Providence, the citizens of the town pledged their lives, their fortunes and their sacred honor. President Abraham Lincoln issued his call for seventy-five thousand volunteers in April 1861 and July 1st a full company of volunteers of one hundred men, marched forth from the town, dressed in uniforms, contributed by the gifts of citizens, which could not have cost less than twenty-five hundred dollars. It was one of the first companies to be made ready for service. The town showed its patriotism by appropriations of large sums of money and by giving of her sons, the best blood of these families, three hundred and fifty-four men in the prime of life; thirty-six of these loyal sons were called upon to make the supreme





THE PAGEANT: EPISODE I: THE INDIANS



THE PAGEANT: EPISODE II: THE FIRST TOWN MEETING



THE PAGEANT: EPISODE III: THE STAGE COACH



sacrifice, and others suffered terrible wounds, and others died from disease, and several languished in foul southern prisons. It was the greatest drain of men that Holliston was ever called upon to make and she never has quite recovered from the loss.

The population of the town was about 3,100 and after a few years began to lose in number. The first company was called, Company B, and joined the 16th Mass. Regiment of Volunteers. It went to Fortress Munroe, and in 1862 became a part of the Army of the Potomac, engaging in the seven days fight before Richmond. In the battle of Glendale, June 30, 1862, Company B lost Col. Wyman and Sergeant Elbridge G. Whiting. Gen. Hooker's letter to Gov. Andrew said, "There is no doubt but at Glendale, the 16th Mass. Regiment saved the army."

The town voted to erect a monument to the fallen heroes and a shaft of solid granite costing \$3,000 was erected in the Central Cemetery with the inscription "Honor to the Brave" and the names of fifty-three men who had fallen in the different battles were placed upon it.

In this period between 1824 and 1874 it established two banks, the National Bank in 1865 and the Savings Bank in 1872. Its social and fraternal organizations have been the Masons, the G. A. R. Post and auxiliaries, Y. M. C. A., Knights of Honor, Sons of Temperance, The Grange, Knights of Columbus, Ancient Order of Hibernians, and many others.

The period ended in quietness and peace; it was an illustrious and uplifting period in all the different spheres of life, materially, educationally and religiously.

## V. WE COME NOW TO THE MODERN PERIOD.



FOR the last fifty years Holliston has had a steady, quiet, persistent development along modern lines. It has not grown in population, but it has grown in self-respect and in power. Holliston was visited by a great fire on the night of May 26, 1875. Within a few hours from the time when the first alarm was given twenty-two buildings in the center of the town were destroyed. The fire began in the Old Stone Tavern, once the parsonage of the church, when Rev. Mr. Stone was pastor, and before it was extinguished twenty-two buildings were completely destroyed. The town suffered also from other serious fires in the early eighties, but of late years it has been comparatively free from such calamities.

These fires emphasized the need of town water and the Holliston Water Co. was incorporated in 1884 and within a few years water was piped through the streets and connections made with the homes.

In this period houses that had been built by the fathers, were made over by the children and modern conveniences introduced. Today the homes are fitted with plumbing, electric lights, telephones, radios and all the modern appliances. The electric railway from Framingham to Holliston and Milford has made one more convenient connection with the outside world, while the automobile has done more for us than we could ask or think. We never asked it to maim and kill so many people, and we never thought it could possibly be such an indispensable means of conveyance. It has come, however, to stay, and Holliston is making good use of it.

On July 4, 1876, the town celebrated with proper exercises one hundred years of the nation's existence. Committees had been appointed by the town to make suitable arrangements. The exercises were carried out in a most dignified and patriotic manner with the help of the officers and committees, which were composed of over seventy-five men and women. These men were the leaders in town affairs, but so swift are the changes of time that I can find only one man who served on these committees who is living today. He is still with us and serving on a committee of this Bi-centennial, Joseph H. Dewing. Rev. Edmund Dowse of Sherborn, our mother town, delivered the Centennial Address. It was a patriotic and inspiring production and was printed by vote of the town. The other features of the celebration were the firing of salutes at early dawn, a procession of antiques and horrors, always a delight to the small boy; an inspiring parade at ten o'clock in the morning, with the officers of the town, invited guests, and various organizations in line of march. At noon in Mt. Hollis Grove a large gathering partook of a dinner and afterwards listened to toasts responded to by many invited guests. The day closed fittingly with music and fireworks. The sentiment of that illustrious day was well expressed by John G. Whittier:

*Our father's God! from out whose hand  
The centuries flow like grains of sand,  
We meet today, united, free,  
And loyal to our land and thee,  
To thank thee for the era done,  
And trust thee for the opening one.*

In July 1879, the public library was established through the gift of



\$1,000.00 left by Elias Bullard, Esq. in his will. He was the one lawyer who had been a permanent resident here during all his practice, beginning in 1826 and continuing until 1876. This gift was augmented by one of \$500.00 from Mr. Seth Thayer and lesser sums by others and appropriations by the town annually, bringing the library up to a high estate of usefulness. It is now housed in a beautiful building, the gift of Andrew Carnegie, and is doing its part in uplifting the ideals of its patrons. Holliston has had a few industries established in this modern period—the Williams Shoe Factory and the Paper Mill, but many of the people of the town are now commuters, making this place their residence. It is becoming more and more a suburban town. Once on the edge of a wilderness, it is now on the edge of a vast throbbing population. The distance to the city of Boston in olden times was measured from six to twelve hours; it is now measured from sixty to ninety minutes.

We have passed from the quill to the typewriter, from hand printing to the linotype, from the ox-cart and one horse chaise to the Pullman car and the automobile, from the well by the woodshed to running water in all parts of the house, from the stone steps to the elevator, from the dugout to the palatial steamer, from the sailboat to the hydroplane, from the signal fires on Jasper's rock to the wireless telegraphy and the radio, from log fires to electric stoves, from tallow candles to nitrogen films, from the hand scythe to the tractor with its wonderful appliances to help the tiller of the soil, from the crudest machinery of the colonial days to the most wonderful inventions of modern times. By means of a new electric plug, a woman may iron with electric heat, be cooled by an electric fan and listen to music from a radio in a room lighted by a single jet that supplies electricity for all activities. We can stay at home and be in touch with the whole world or we can go abroad and be in close touch with our home. There is no place where we can flee from the presence of man. If we ascend into the heavens, behold he is there; if we make our bed in Sheol, behold he is there; if we take the wings of the morning and flee unto the uttermost part of the earth, he is still showing forth his presence. And the devout man says, Surely, if that is true of the presence of man, it must be more so of the presence of the Divine.

And when we study the life of Holliston, we find that she, like all the rest of the towns and cities is united in these invisible, but certain bonds. When the war broke out so unexpectedly in 1914 that involved the great nations of Europe, it set in motion forces that were destined to involve the whole world and hence the name given to it was the right one, "*The World War*," and in this war Holliston gave of her best, the flower of

her young manhood. The government of the United States called upon its manhood by drafting those of military age and one hundred and forty-eight men were summoned to service. Only a few of these went to France, but of that number Chas. Duford was killed in the battle of the Argonne Forest and Harold Gallison died from an accident in France after the armistice. James A. Cutler died in the camp at Columbia, South Carolina, after the war was over. Charles A. Shaw and Llewellyn Chapman were decorated for distinguished service. Fortunate it was that the German sought an armistice before other thousands of young men in America should perish by the cruel instrument of war. Holliston did her part as she has always done her part when duty called her either to fight the foe or subdue the wilderness or to build a town and a nation.

Holliston has never had many wealthy men. She has never been an aristocratic town and yet she has had a wealth and an aristocracy that all communities may enjoy. She has had a wealth of sturdy men and women who were willing to work with hand and brain. Loafers are not wanted in this industrious town. She has had an aristocracy of character that has kept her name lustrous throughout these two hundred years. And that is the only kind of aristocracy which is of any value in a democratic republic.

When Napoleon drew up his army in the deserts of Egypt, before those stately pyramids, he said, "Men of France—forty centuries look down upon you." Today two centuries look down upon us; let us look up to them with reverence and praise. These ten score years have seen great changes in this land of ours. But these changes have not been brought about by nature. There have been no earthquakes or floods or tempests to transform this part of the globe. The great changes have been brought about by the hands and brains of men and women of like passions as ourselves. Our ancestors had to deal with Indians, with forests, with rocks, with unleashed streams, with despots, with petty irritating methods of taxations, with disease, with untimely deaths. While we have some of these ills among us today our problem is to awaken in the hearts of men, a larger brotherhood, a deeper, broader sympathy for all mankind, a life among men of truth and justice and peace. We can no longer work apart from our fellowmen; we must join our forces and help wipe out all the ills that drag men down to destruction either of body or spirit. Evolution has shifted from the material to the spiritual, and the progress of this new century must be along moral and spiritual lines. We stand on the threshold of the third century of Holliston's life and ask, What manner of man is to appear in these



coming days? Adversity is not to be shunned as an enemy, nor prosperity sought as a friend. The adverse circumstances often make the man and the prosperous often make the fiend.

*"Rough are the steps, slow-hewn in flintiest rock,  
States climb to power by; slippery those with gold  
Down which they stumble to eternal mock."*

What is our vision of these coming years? Shall we cry out in anguish "Vanity of vanities, all is vanity," like the ancient preacher or shall we say with a writer,

*"I, looking there, beheld the Ancient Three  
Known to the Greek and to the Northman's creed,  
That sit in shadow of the mystic Tree,  
Still crooning, as they weave their endless brede,  
One song: 'Time was, Time is and Time shall be.'"*

or shall our vision be of a town built by men and women of education and character who believe in God and in their fellowmen who have a sympathetic spirit concerning that

*"One far off divine event  
Toward which the whole creation moves."*

I hear the bells of the new century beginning to ring—and what do they say?

*"Ring out old shapes of foul disease;  
Ring out the narrowing lust of gold;  
Ring out the thousand wars of old  
Ring in the thousand years of peace.*

*Ring in the valiant man and free,  
The larger heart, the kindlier hand;  
Ring out the darkness of the land  
Ring in the Christ that is to be."*

## OTHER IMPORTANT EVENTS AND SOME NOTES FROM THE TOWN RECORDS.

- 1764—The town voted: “to have 40 shillings of school money to be spent in a woman’s school at north end.”
- 1773—Feb. 7. Voted: “that the sincere and hearty thanks of this town be given to the town of Boston for the care and attention of so many of its worthy inhabitants in so clearly stating the rights and privileges of the colonies and for their care and attention at this, as well as at other, times to preserve the rights of the colonies and we do assure them that what has been transmitted to this and the other towns in this province has received the full approbation of this town.”
- 1775—Voted: “100 pounds to be paid to the minute men, and for other preparations for the defense of our country . . . and that the selectmen provide arms and amunition to equip the poor of said minute men out of the town stock.”
- 1776—March 4. Voted: “not to choose into office or employ in a business of the town the ensuing year any person that has appeared enemical to this country in this present struggle with Great Britain but to treat all such with neglect.”
- 1780—May 8th. Voted: “to accept a constitution or frame of government agreed upon by delegates of the people of the state of Mass. Bay in convention begun and held at Cambridge, Sept. 1st, 1779 and continued by adjournments until March 2nd, 1780.” Sept. 4. The town met and voted for the first Governor of Mass. John Hancock received 39 votes and James Bowdoin 2.
- 1787—The meeting house, by vote of the town, was painted a bright orange color.
- 1805—Voted: “to grant \$30 to encourage the learning of young singers, the year ensuing.” At the next town meeting Capt. Nathaniel Johnson, Lt. John Fairbanks and Jacob Winfell were chosen a committee “to set up a school to learn young singers.”
- 1807—The first school committee was chosen.



- 1812—Voted: “to give each soldier \$12 per month in addition to regular pay by the government provided they are obliged to march to the defence of the country.”
- 1820—First Sunday school was formed.
- 1821—Voted: “to grant \$40 for the first year to support singing in the meeting-house and after that, eight dollars a quarter to be paid to the choir singers who have and shall obligate themselves to perform to the satisfaction of the town and when they fail to do this, said grant will then cease.”
- 1825—The first town house was built, the upper story of which was the town hall while the lower floor was occupied by the church as a vestry.
- 1828—A line of two-horse baggage wagons was started from Milford to Boston passing through Holliston.
- 1832—The first fire engine was bought by the town.
- 1833—The town voted to warm the meeting-house and \$125 was appropriated to buy a stove.  
Voted: “not to use ardent spirits at the Poor Farm; also not to grant liscence for the sale of same.”
- 1846—Ashland was incorporated from parts of Holliston, Hopkinton and Framingham.
- 1855—The old Town Hall was moved away and the present building was erected.
- 1859—Lake Grove Cemetery was incorporated on the banks of Lake Wennakeening.
- 1861—Voted: “to pay \$1 a month to the wife of any soldier enlisted from this town and 50 cents a month for each child.”
- 1892—The water system was completed and the Holliston Water Co. was formed. One hundred families were supplied with water the first year.
- 1893—The Horton farm in E. Holliston was purchased, refitted and furnished for the poor of the town.
- 1896—The Milford, Holliston and Framingham St. Railway Co. began construction of their line through the town.  
The Cutler school building was erected on Mt. Hollis.
- 1897—Under the direction of the state, the school union of Holliston, Medway and Sherborn was established.
- 1902—The town appropriated the sum of \$700 for the purpose of electric street lighting.
- 1903—July 26-30. Old home week was held.

## GENERAL COMMITTEE.

Charles D. Fisher, Chairman

Mary E. Driscoll, Secretary

F. Marcus Leland	Joseph H. Dewing	Walter Wentworth
Lewis T. Holbrook	Jacob Binstock	Warren E. Coolidge
Joseph P. Dexter	Cornelius Driscoll	J. Lester Shea
Arthur A. Williams	Jane Comey Williams	William H. Crocker
Henry M. Cutler	Mary E. Cutler	Dennis Moynihan
John B. Kearns	Agnes Newell	Charles J. Flagg

## PUBLICITY COMMITTEE

John B. Kearns, Chairman

Mary E. Driscoll, Secretary

F. Marcus Leland	Sarah Kennedy	Lambert Gallott
Christine Wise	Rev. W. T. Jordan	John M. Payson
J. Lester Shea	Rev. A. J. Fitzgerald	George R. Russell
Ernest Chase	Rev. W. F. Koonson	James Cunningham
Frances J. Hayes	Rev. H. M. Miles	Michael Mahoney
Joseph P. Dexter	George A. Flagg	A. E. Chamberlain
Freeman Shippee	George H. Nichols	Mary S. White
Josephine Batchelder	Edward Colburn	Williard Adams
Edward A. Pyne	Miss L. E. Wilder	Benjamin Willey
Charlotte Bragg	John Driscoll	
G. Wilmot Brooks	Patrick Casey	

## HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE

Charles J. Flagg, Chairman

Anne Moynihan, Secretary

Mrs. Charlotte Morse	Edward A. Pyne	Fred A. Wallace
Mrs. Leslie Eames	Raymond Phipps	Thomas Ferguson
Cornelius Driscoll	William Kelley	John P. Cavan
Jane C. Williams	Waldo A. Collins	Henry Keady
Mary E. Driscoll	Clarence Temple	George R. Russell
Mrs. Willis Kingsbury	William Chesmore	Mrs. Annie Cutler
Katherine Dudley	Leslie Eames	Mrs. Charles Flagg

## DECORATION COMMITTEE

F. Marcus Leland, Chairman

William H. Crocker, Secretary

Henry M. Cutler	Mrs. George Tylee	Mrs. Florence Claflin
	Jerry E. Long	



## MUSIC AND ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

William H. Crocker, Chairman

George E. Spring, Secretary

Jacob Binstock	Walter F. Wentworth	Edward A. Fair
Agnes Newell	Stephen Bray	Edward F. Dannahy

## SPORTS AND ATHLETICS COMMITTEE

Warren E. Coolidge, Chairman

J. Lester Shea	Ernest Chase	Ellsworth Woodward
Edward F. Dannahy	Charles Brown	Herbert Bullard
Waldo A. Collins	Herbert Chambers	Fred Biladeau
Fred Murtaugh	William Chesmore	Frank Wise
Joseph Crahan	Michael Hayes	Frank Haley

## PAGEANT COMMITTEE

Henry M. Cutler, Chairman

Florence N. Claflin, Secretary

Mrs. Charles Flagg	Mrs. Andrew Morse	Mrs. Lloyd Razee
Mrs. Kellogg Doane	Kellogg Doane	Lloyd Razee
Mrs. Willis Kingsbury	Mrs. Henry M. Cutler	Josephine Batchelder

## CONTRIBUTION COMMITTEE

Charles D. Fisher, Chairman

## PARADE COMMITTEE

Allan V. Garratt, Chairman

Stanley Emery	Lewis T. Holbrook	F. A. Wallace
L. I. Bruce	Fred Robbins	

## HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

Judge Willis A. Kingsbury, Chairman

Deacon Joseph Dewing	John B. Kearns	Esther W. Fair
Jane C. Williams	Capt. Henry Comey	Katharine Dudley

SATURDAY, AUGUST 30, 1924.

- 2:15 P.M. Ten mile open marathon race. Holliston to Framingham and return.  
First prize: Genuine Leather Travelling Bag.  
Second prize: Gold Watch.
- 2:30 P.M. One-hundred yard sprint race—entrants to come from towns situated no greater distance than ten miles from Holliston.  
Prize: Gold Watch.  
One hundred yard local competitive sprint. Entrants from Town of Holliston only.  
First prize: Ten dollars.  
Second prize: Five dollars.
- 3:00 P.M. Junior eight hundred and eighty yard relay race—open to High School teams, Boy Scout teams, etc., ages ranging up to eighteen years.  
Prize: Solid Gold Loving Cup.
- 3:15 P.M. Baseball game—Holliston Town Team vs. Sherborn A. A.
- 8:00 P.M. Historical moving picture, "The Courtship of Miles Standish."
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SUNDAY, AUGUST 31, 1924.

- 3:00 P.M. Historical exercises in the Town Hall.  
Elbridge Cutler Whiting will deliver the historical address.  
Present and former citizens will make brief remarks.  
There will be music.





THE PAGEANT: EPISODE IV: THE MINUET



THE PAGEANT: EPISODE V: THE DISTRICT SCHOOL

On Monday morning, the several divisions of the Parade, under the direction of Mr. Allan V. Garratt, formed upon the streets leading from Washington Street. Promptly at 9.30 the parade was set in motion, at the sound of a gun, and proceeded over a route covering Washington Street, from the Square, to Curve Street, through Curve Street, at East Holliston, thence south again, on Washington Street, to Pleasant Street, countermarching through Pleasant Street and Washington Street to the Square, where it disbanded.

The roster of the parade was as follows:

Mounted Constabulary

Captain Louis T. Holbrook, commanding

Freeman A. Shippee, Chief Marshal

The Fifth Regiment Band, of Camp Devens

FIRST DIVISION

Alfred N. Robbins, Marshal

Town Officials

Grand Army of the Republic

Powell T. Wyman Post

George R. Russell, commanding

Sons of Veterans

The American Legion

Charles F. DuForde Post 47

William O. Chesmore, commanding

SECOND DIVISION

Charles M. Pennell, Marshal

Holliston School Children

THIRD DIVISION

C. H. Sibley, Marshal

Marlboro Boy Scout Band

Holliston Boy Scouts

Holliston Girl Scouts

FOURTH DIVISION

George E. Spring, Marshal

Costumed Chorus

Antiques and Horribles

FIFTH DIVISION

Kellogg S. Doane, Marshal

Equestrians

Horse-drawn vehicles and Floats

SIXTH DIVISION

Waldo A. Collins, Marshal

The Holliston Fire Department

SEVENTH DIVISION

Stephen E. Wheeler, Marshal

The Worcester Military Brass Band

The Holliston Nursing Association

Odd Fellows

William Kelley, Noble Grand

Rebekahs

Mrs. Ruby Francis Stevens, Noble Grand





THE PARADE



HOLLISTON PUBLIC LIBRARY AND HISTORICAL HOUSE

Eastern Star  
Mrs. Hortense Lyons, Worthy Matron  
Foresters

Harry Keady, Chief Forester  
County Farm Bureau  
Leslie A. Eames, President  
Indians and Early Settlers  
Auxiliaries of Veterans  
Mrs. Maude Wiley, Commander  
Relief Corps  
Miss May Peckham, Commander  
Sherborn Camp Fire Girls

EIGHTH DIVISION  
F. A. Wallace, Marshal  
Merchants' Floats

Commercial Vehicles  
NINTH DIVISION

Leo I. Bruce, Marshal  
Private Automobiles

As the procession started dark clouds were massing behind the hill. Thunder rolled as the head of the parade approached the East Village, and as it made the turn to Curve Street the storm broke in a deluge of tropical intensity, which continued while the remainder of the route was covered. But this deluge, although undoubtedly affecting the attendance at the afternoon's performance of the Pageant, failed to dampen the Holliston spirit. Toward noon the skies cleared.

The parade prizes were awarded as follows:

Best drilled marching unit  
Sergt. Charles F. DuForde Post 47, American Legion  
Best Amateur Band  
Boy Scouts of Marlboro  
Best Commercial Float  
William P. O'Grady, Hardware  
Best Non-Commercial Float  
Miss Sparhawk, of Sherborn  
Best Decorated Open Auto  
Rebekah Lodge 128  
Best Decorated Closed Auto  
A. R. Gould, of Framingham  
Most Antique Antique  
The Stage Coach  
Most Horrible Horrible  
Mutt and Jeff  
Best Dressed Group  
Bob White Camp  
Best Costumed Mount  
Capt. Samuel Dunlop, U. S. A., as George Washington  
Best Mounted Equestrian  
Lieut. Charles T. Beaupre, Massachusetts State Police



# Holliston Historical Pageant

1724-1924

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## OFFICIAL PROGRAM

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Presented by the People of

HOLLISTON

on

Highland Street

---

September 1st at 3 p. m.



MADAM MABEL LYMAN, Director





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# HOLLISTON .: HISTORICAL .: PAGEANT

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## PERSONNEL PAGEANT DIRECTION AND COMMITTEES

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*Pageant Director*, Madam Mabel Lyman, Boston.

*Assistant Director*, Mrs. Oscar H. Peare.

*Chorus Directors*, George E. Spring, Edward A. Fair.

*Band Director*, S. T. Clements

### PAGEANT COMMITTEE

Henry M. Cutler, *Chairman*

Mrs. George W. Claflin, *Secretary*

Mrs. W. A. Kingsbury

Mrs. Henry M. Cutler

Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd E. Razee

Mr. and Mrs. K. S. Doane

Mrs. Andrew A. Morse

Josephine H. Batchelder

### FINANCE

Edward C. Rawson, *Chairman*

John O. Noble

Edward T. O'Connell

### PROGRAM

Josephine H. Batchelder, *Chairman*

U. Waldo Cutler

Mrs. Edward C. Rawson

Mrs. Jane Comey Williams

Mary E. Driscoll

### GROUND'S

Leslie A. Eames, *Chairman*

William E. Marchant

F. Edward Bundy

John Newell

Barton C. Emery

Stanley L. Emery

Willis A. Kingsbury

John Kearns

W. Lowell Long

### PROPERTIES

Helen H. Leland, *Chairman*

Elizabeth G. Johnson

Helen Moynihan

Katharine Dudley

Mrs. Isabel Lasier

Andrew Garbutt

Ralph D. Colburn

Wilfred G. Robshaw

Willis A. Kingsbury

Fred W. Guild

Andrew D. Morse

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# HOLLISTON ∴ HISTORICAL ∴ PAGEANT

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## PUBLICITY

Nathan Pike, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Frank G. Wise  
Helen Leland  
Isabelle Twitchell

## MUSIC

William Crocker, *Chairman*  
George E. Spring, *Secretary*  
Mrs. Agnes K. Newell  
Stephen F. Bray  
Edward A. Fair  
Edward F. Dannahy

## CHILDREN'S

Mrs. Amy Bradford  
Ida Lord  
Kate A. Wade  
Mrs. John B. Crary  
Mrs. Frank Cass

## DANCING

Mrs. Herbert T. Boardman, *Chairman*  
Mrs. Robert B. Peckham  
Mrs. Leslie Eames  
Mrs. Nathan Pike  
Mrs. Alden Hoag  
Anne Moynihan  
Helen T. O'Brien  
Dorothy F. Leland  
Beatrice Dyer

## COSTUMES

Mrs. Henry M. Cutler, *Chairman (Antique)*  
Mrs. John O. Noble, *Chairman (Modern)*

Mary Supple  
Annie Supple  
Mildred Cass  
Mrs. H. Stanley Fair  
Mrs. George E. Carr  
Mrs. Herbert T. Boardman  
Mrs. George D. Stover  
Mrs. Sarah J. Kennedy  
Mrs. Vernon L. Wright  
Mrs. Fred B. Wright  
Mrs. Jarvis B. Woolford  
Mrs. Edward E. Leonard  
Mrs. Charles S. Manson  
Mrs. Andrew D. Morse

Mrs. Everett Ward  
Mrs. Agnes K. Newell  
Mrs. Edward T. O'Connell  
Madam V. M. Spring  
Mrs. George E. Spring  
Mrs. Arthur J. Stevens  
Mrs. Robert B. Peckham  
Mrs. Percy F. Leland  
Mrs. F. Edward Bundy  
Mrs. Alfred N. Robbins  
Mrs. James Inches  
Mrs. Arthur W. Moore  
Mrs. Mary Sweeney  
Mrs. Archibald A. Langill

## INSURANCE

Lloyd E. Razee



## PERSONNEL OF PAGEANT PERFORMERS

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### PRELUDE OF BIRDS, BEES AND WEE BEASTIES

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#### *Butterflies*

Betty Emery, Jeanette Crary, Joyce Hines, Dorothy Lebouteley, Polly Pike, Helen Peckham, Mary O'Brien.

#### *Bumblebees*

Walter Ford, George Ford, Alden Higgins, Robert Hines, Junior Stevens, Newell Eames.

#### *Robins*

Mario Battagline, Harold Hatch, John Berry, Robert Metcalf, Charles Fisher, Basil Smith.

#### *The Bunnies*

Frances Thain, Sallie Emery, Betty Noble, Priscilla Jacobs, Helen Nottage, Maris Crowley, Norma Claflin.

#### *Squirrels*

Barbara Crowley, Emma Elias, Marjorie Mahoney, Carol Hutchins, Grace Loring, Isabel Given.

#### *Father Time, Reader of Prologues*

Rev. George Walter Fiske

#### *Child Who Bids Time Stay*

Evadne Sewell Pidgeon

#### *Spirit of Youth*

Rachel Cutler

#### *Children of Rainbow and Maypole Dances*

Dorothy Bank, Rachel Battelle, Miriam Battelle, Esther Carroll, Evelyn Johnston, Rachel Cutler, Eileen Chesmore, Elsie Bank, Kathryn Marco, Martha Feeley, Bernice Kerr, Louise Ferguson, Ruth Bradford, Eunice Crary, Anna Leadon, Ruth Hammond, Barbara Pike, Elizabeth Adams, Mary Kennedy, Jennie Graham, Dorothy Briggs, Margaret Mooney, Myrtle Hatch, Gertrude Bryden, Arline Maeder, Josie Dowdell, Thelma Pond, Jeannette Flagg, Gladys Woodward, Helena Eastland, Mary Henderson, Louise Holbrook, Ernestine Manson, Jean Lasier, Delia Carr, Helen Mooney, Florence Rayfuse, Madeline Lyons, Thelma Phipps, Veronica Hayes, Melba Hutchins, Mary Carr, Rita Thain, Mamie McCarthy, Marion Gwynn, Edith Ely, Evelyn Sibly, Thelma Young.

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# HOLLISTON ∴ HISTORICAL ∴ PAGEANT

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*Prelude Soloist*

Mrs. Marguerite Garvin Barber

*The Heralds*

Dr. Ernest C. Stoddard, Alfred Lyons

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## EPISODE I

*Chairman*

Katharine H. Dudley

*Indian Chiefs*

John O. Noble, Ernest Williams, Eli Vaughn, Jeremiah Long, F. Marcus Leland, J. Edward Loring.

*Indian Braves*

Arthur J. Stevens, Howard Wells, Bryant Banks, Charles Adams, Whitman Johnson, Gaston Labouteley, Stanley Fair, Willis Kingsbury, Dean Garvin, Lowell Long, Andrew D. Morse, Olcutt Noble, Howard Vaughn, Gilbert Banks, George Marchant, Frank Young, Frederick Gustafson, Herbert Morang, Vernon Wright, Robert Peckham.

*Indian Runner*

Whitman Johnston

*Indian Squaws*

*Squaw Sachem:* Katharine H. Dudley.

*Squaw Mother, crooning lullaby:* Isabelle Twitchell.

*Other Indian Women:* Edith Wells, Dorothy Pond, Nellie May Banks, Adelaide Colburn, Mrs. Barton C. Emery, Mrs. E. Parker Smith, Mrs. Nathan Pike, Anne Moynihan, Mrs. Gaston E. Labouteley, Mrs. Stanley Fair, Mrs. Alfred Lyons, Mrs. F. Edward Bundy, Elsie L. Marchant, Mildred Winchester.

*Indian Children*

Helen Russell, Frances Leland, Leonard Eames, Travis Crowley, Carroll Crowley, Charles Berry, Robert Berry, Casidio Battaglini, Prentiss Grace, Ned Smith, Homer Ely, Harold Kelley.

*Early Settlers*

Oscar H. Peare, Leader; Kellogg S. Doane, Ralph D. Colburn, Henry P. Dickinson, Joseph H. Dewing, Josiah B. Parkins, Albion Cutler, John B. Crary, Mrs. E. E. Leonard, Mrs. L. M. Champney, Mrs. M. Ella Woolford, Mrs. W. P. Watts, Mrs. Roland P. Lang, Mrs. John B. Crary, Mrs. Robert B. Peckham, Mrs. Frederick Andrews, Miss Mae Gallotte, Dorothy Leland, Mary Fisher, Priscilla Bradford, Oleva Corey, Elsie Marshall, Marguerite Marshall, Margaret Taylor.



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# HOLLISTON ∴ HISTORICAL ∴ PAGEANT

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## EPISODE II

*Chairman*

Mrs. Herbert T. Boardman

*Sherborn Fathers*

Gentlemen from Sherborn

*Holliston Freeholders and First Voters*

G. E. W. Brooks, Herbert T. Boardman, James Inches, Warren Coolidge, Andrew Garbutt, Allen V. Garratt, John H. Griggs, Albert Wilkins, Nathan Pike, Alfred Robbins, Charles Clafin.

*The Last Indian*

Alfred Lyons

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## EPISODE III

*Chairman*

Isabel C. Lasier

*The New Minister*

Edwards Dickinson

*Minister's Wife*

Pauline Winchester

*Reception Committee*

Mr. and Mrs. Waldo Cutler, Mrs. W. A. Kingsbury, Mrs. Lloyd E. Razee, Mrs. W. F. Keller, Joseph Dewing, Henry Dickinson, Ralph Colburn.

*Old Resident*

Lambert Gallotte

*Blacksmith*

John Schmidt

*Stage Coach Driver*

Arthur Gooch

*Tavern Keeper*

J. E. Long

*Tithing Man*

Cyrus Turner

*Man in Stocks*

Ronald Stimson

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# HOLLISTON ∴ HISTORICAL ∴ PAGEANT

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## *Boys*

John Gale, Newton Robbins, Henry Doane, Ivan Bruce, Clarence Sibley, Howard Wheeler, Edward Thain.

## *Townsfolk and Neighbors*

G. E. W. Brooks, Josiah Parkin, Oscar Peare, Ernest Olmstead, Walter Higgins, Lowell Long, Clifford Bassett, Dean Garvin, Harry Pond, Wilbur Hamlet, Robert McLaren. Mrs. J. B. Woolford, Mrs. John Champney, Mrs. Frank Cass, Mrs. Oscar Peare, Mrs. Walter Higgins, Mrs. Carrie Hammond, Mrs. Isabel Lasier and Jean, Mrs. Agnes Feeley and Martha, Miss Louise Fitts, Miss Sarah Hobart, Miss Nellie Fiske, Miss Emma Brooks, Miss Hazel Bassett, Miss Oleva Corey, Miss Harriet Pond, Miss Astrid Lorentzson, Mrs. E. E. Leonard, Mrs. Frank Wise and daughter, Mrs. Aaron Claflin, Mrs. George Spring, Mrs. W. P. Watts, Mrs. Amy Bradford, Mrs. Jane Robshaw, Mrs. Roland Lang, Mrs. F. C. Tenney, Miss Fanny Hayes, Miss Mary Cutler, Miss Alice Whiting, Miss Mae Gallotte, Miss Helen Leland, Miss Lillian Iwwerks, Miss Elsie Marshall, Miss Marguerite Marshall, Miss Pollyanna Pike, Miss Dorothy Leland.

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## EPISODE IV

### *Chairman*

Mrs. George E. Tylee

### *Messenger from Lexington*

Dean Garvin

### *Minute Men*

American Legion, Sons of Veterans, McGrath Post Fife Drum and Bugle Corps of Framingham.

### *Women at Home on the Farm*

#### *Chairman*

Miss Sarah Hobart

Miss Emma Brooks, Mrs. Frank Cass, Mrs. Barton Emery, Miss Elizabeth Johnson.

### *Children*

Sally and Betty Emery

### *Colonial Party in Honor of General Washington*

George Washington, Captain Samuel Lynn Dunlop

Aide to Gen. Washington, Dr. Alden R. Newhall

Hostess, Mrs. George E. Tylee

*Townspeople Attending:* Mr. and Mrs. Leo I. Bruce, Ivan Bruce, Robert Bruce, Mrs. Frank Cass, Rachel Cutler, Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Fair, Mr. and Mrs. Charles



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## HOLLISTON ∴ HISTORICAL ∴ PAGEANT

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J. Flagg, Charlotte Flagg, Mrs. Allan V. Garratt, Dean Garvin, Mrs. Alden B. Hoag, Ann Hoag, Jean Lasier, Anne Moynihan, Mrs. T. E. Newell, Marjorie Newell, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew D. Morse, Mrs. John O. Noble, Betty Noble, Mrs. Nellie V. Pope, Mrs. Edward C. Rawson, Mrs. E. Parker Smith, Ned Smith, Richard Smith, Dr. Frank E. Travis, Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Wallace, Keith Wilkins, Mrs. Frank G. Wise, Betty Wise, Mary Esther Kennedy, Mrs. Samuel L. Dunlop, Lieutenant T. S. Timberman, Sons of Veterans, American Legion.

### *Dancers*

Joyce Tylee Dunlop, Lieutenant T. S. Timberman.

### *Minuet*

Betty Twitchell, Doris Bassett, Dorothy Leland, Beatrice Dyer, Anita Weston, Gladys Whitten, Eva Danforth, Madeline Wilkins, Beula Spring, Elsie Marchant, Marion Emery, Elizabeth Dickey, Freida Leland, Mildred Cass, Charlotte Flagg, Lowell Long, Whitman Johnson, Thomas Newell, Olcott Noble, H. Gordon Weston, Charles Whitten, Cyrus Turner, Albert Wilkins, George Spring, George Marchant, Stanley Emery, Bryant Banks, Morton Dickey, Ellison Leland, Charles Adams.

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## EPISODE V

### *Chairman*

Mrs. H. P. Dickinson

### *Music Master*

Edward A. Fair

### *School Mistress*

Mrs. H. P. Dickinson

### *School Children*

Rachel Battelle, Kathryn Marco, Rachel Cutler, Evelyn Johnston, Helena Eastland, Jean Lasier, Helen Russell, Grace Pond, Thelma Pond, Barbara Pike, Walter Marshall, Joseph Marshall, Paul Mahoney, Bobby Mahoney, Dorothy Banks, Miriam Banks, Frances Leland, Elizabeth Adams, Dorothy Labouteley, Polly Pike, Eunice Crary, Marjorie Smith, Doris Smith, Stanton Tule, Emma Elias, Ernest Deignan, Jeannette Flagg.

### *Adult Singing School*

*Music Master*, George E. Spring.

*Soloists*: Mrs. Ella E. Lang, Fred E. Gustafson, Bayard S. Stone.

*Members of Chorus*: Louise Sullivan, Hazel Watson, Isabelle Twitchell, Mrs. Ella E. Lang, Mrs. Alfred N. Robbins, Mrs. Arthur W. Simpson, Mrs. Joseph A. Partridge, Mrs. Hazel Young, Mrs. Wallace Watts, Mrs. Amy C. Bradford, Mrs. John O. Noble, Mrs. Lottie Champney, Mrs. George E. Carr, Mrs. Fred E.

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Gustafson, Mrs. George E. Spring, Mrs. M. Ella Woolford, Mrs. E. E. Leonard, Mrs. Iva McGray, Mrs. Fred Andrews, Mrs. Lillian I. Twitchell, Mrs. H. Gordon Weston, Mrs. G. E. Hutchins, Mrs. Amy Loring, Mrs. John B. Crary, Mrs. Ethel Kerr, Mrs. Florence Tule, Mrs. Maria Hayes, Mrs. Henry P. Dickinson, Mrs. Carrie L. Cass, Mrs. Jane E. Robshaw, Mrs. Ralph Russell, Mrs. Georgianna Eldridge, Mrs. Charles J. Flagg, Mrs. Carrie B. Hamlet, Mrs. Aaron E. Claffin, Mrs. George Labouteley, Mrs. Elizabeth Dickey, Mrs. Raymond Whitney, Marguerite F. Marshall, Eva Danforth, Astrid Lorentzson, Oleve Corey, Dorothy Pond, Elsie J. Marshall, Priscilla Bradford, Mary Fisher, Dorothy Leland, Mae Gallotte, Frieda M. Leland, Mabel Ott, Florence Brooks, Mary Gleason, Adelaide Colburn, Elsie Marchant, Ethel A. Crocker, Charlotte J. Flagg, Catherine E. Lord, Merle Fisher, Gertrude E. Driscoll, Mary M. Driscoll, Margaret H. Taylor, Mildred F. Russell, Frieda Nichols, Grace Sargent. George E. Spring, Edward A. Fair, Bayard S. Stone, Fred E. Gustafson, Dean Garvin, Edward Dannahy, John B. Crary, Charles C. Claffin, Charles A. Adams, H. Gordon Weston, Bryant Banks, L. Whitman Johnston, G. E. W. Brooks, Sidney E. Dee, Francis Driscoll, Joseph Moore, Joseph Sullivan, Morton N. Dickey, George Labouteley.

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### EPISODE VI

#### *Chairman*

Mrs. Jane Comey Williams

#### *Mormons*

*Leader*, Arthur W. Simpson

*Soloist*, Charles Adams

*Banjo Accompanist*, Maurice Merritt

*Riders*: Edward G. Morang, Elmer Snow, Mrs. Susie P. Eames, Freeman Bullard, Dean Garvin, G. E. W. Brooks.

*Wagon Drivers*: David Colcord, Arthur Gooch.

#### *Other Members of the Train*

Edson P. Travis, Homer Ely, Mrs. Arthur W. Simpson, Frances G. Hayes, Mrs. W. W. Battelle, Miriam Battelle, Rachel Battelle, Fred W. Guild, Benjamin F. Barnes, Alfred Robbins, Mrs. Lena A. Wright, Charles Woodsum, Fred Wright.

#### *Church Members*

*Pastor*, George E. Carr

*Spokesman*, Oscar H. Peare

Alice Whiting, J. E. Long, C. A. Goodrich, Nellie V. Pope, Bertrand Comey, Mildred Cass, Ruth Cass, Ernest Smith, Helen Brigham, Mrs. George E. Carr, George H. Winchester, George E. Hutchins.

#### *Indian Riders*

Vernon Wright, Herbert Morang, Arthur Stevens, Stanley Fair, Andrew Morse.



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## EPISODE VII

### *Chairman*

Mrs. Agnes G. Newell

## INTERLUDE

### *America*

Mary J. Meader

### *Attendants*

Margaret D. Moore, Gertrude Torndorf, Dorothy O. Meader, Isabel Connelly, Helena Mahoney.

### *Erin*

Agnes V. Bray

### *Attendants*

Mary C. Driscoll, Grace A. Driscoll, Mary P. Bray, A. Marjorie Newell, Anne Moynihan.

## EPISODE

### *Members of Shoemaker's Family*

*Father*, Edward F. Dannahy

*Mother*, Agnes G. Newell

*Sons*: Francis W. Driscoll, Joseph F. Moon, W. Frank Haley. Thomas K. Newell, Dr. Thomas K. Bray, William Meader.

*Daughters*: Alia H. Haley, Helen C. McCarthy, Helen J. Carr, Beth Hutchinson.

### *Neighbors*

Louise C. Sullivan, Abigail M. Cronan, David J. Sullivan, William P. Carr, Joseph F. McCarthy.

### *Dancers*

The Boland Twins

## INTERLUDE

### *Lancers and Virginia Reel*

Mr. H. D. Pond, Mr. and Mrs. George Gallotte, Mr. Edward Lund, Mr. Lewis Robbins, Mr. Arthur Gooch, Mr. and Mrs. George Connelly, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Phipps, Dr. and Mrs. A. M. Miller, Mr. Warren Coolidge, Mr. and Mrs. Frank Mann, Mr. and Mrs. Fred Wallace, Mr. and Mrs. Andrew Morse, Mr. and Mrs. Ralph Russell, Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Phipps, Mrs. John Noble, Whitman Johnston, Doris Bassett, George Holmes, Harold Merrifield, Olcott Noble, Merle Fisher, Mary Fisher, Katherine Lord, Dorothy Pond, Charles Armstrong, Royal Armstrong, Betty Gallotte, Priscilla Bradford.

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## EPISODE VIII

*Chairman*

Mrs. Amy H. Loring

*Dr. Burnap*

Captain Henry Comey

*Returning Soldiers of 1865*

Members of Holliston Sons of Veterans, Camp 63, Members of Framingham Sons of Veterans, Camp 59.

*Soloist*

Mrs. Florence Koonson

*Torchlight Paraders: The Wideawakes*

Earl Wiley, Clarence Wiley, John Woolard, Wilbur Stover, Richard Volpey.

*Riders*

Ted Volpey, Gilbert Banks, Robert Sargent, Donald Whittemore, Arthur Griggs, Frank Griggs, Ronald Simpson, Ernest Morgan, John Loring, Jr.

*Ladies in Gathering Around Post Office*

Mrs. Lottie Champney, Mrs. Flora Bailey, Mrs. Jane Robshaw, Mrs. Ira McGrary, Mrs. Nellie Pope, Mrs. Jennie Langill, Mrs. Ruth Whittemore, Mrs. Hazel Young, Mrs. Mildred Watts, Mrs. Mary Loring, Nellie Fiske, Mae Gallotte, Mary Robshaw.

*Children*

Grace Loring, Lenore Torio, Vincent Torio.

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## EPISODE IX

*Chairman*

Elizabeth Johnson

Members of Holliston Honor Roll, Members of the Red Cross.

*Soloist*

Marguerite Garvin Barber

*Spirit of Peace*

## ENSEMBLE

*Actors in all Episodes*

Representatives of G. A. R. and honored citizens

*Oldest Resident*

Lambert Gallotte





THE PAGEANT: EPISODE VI: THE MORMON CAMP



THE PAGEANT: EPISODE VII: AMERICA AND ERIN



THE PAGEANT: EPISODE VIII: THE CIVIL WAR



THE PAGEANT: EPISODE IX: THE WORLD WAR



## Pageant

# “THE STORY OF HOLLISTON”

1724—1924

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### *Heralds Announce the Pageant*

PRELUDE: On a summer afternoon, on a green slope against a line of western hills, butterflies and bees fly lazily about, while small animals play in the grass. The Spirit of Youth enters, searching for adventure, and amuses himself dancing with the Rainclouds and the Rainbow.

Father Time appears looking for treasure at the end of the Rainbow. He finds the Book of Memory. Youth and his companions coax him with a song to show them his treasure.

### SONG OF THE CHILDREN TO FATHER TIME

“Time, you old gypsy man,  
Will you not stay,  
Put up your caravan  
Just for one day?”

All things we'll give you,  
Will you be our guest,  
Dance for you, sing to you,  
Give of our best.  
Deck you in purple,  
Crown you with gold,  
All for the gift of a story long told.

Last week in Lapland,  
Last night in Rome,  
Today old New England  
Welcomes you home.

Show us your treasure,  
Bide with us, we pray,  
Ere space yet untravelled  
Calls you away.

“Time, you old gypsy man,  
Will you not stay,  
Put up your caravan  
Just for one day?”

Father Time listens to their plea, and, turning back the leaves,  
discloses the Story of Holliston.

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### PROLOGUE

Here on the edge of the forest where the red man once held his  
dominion,  
Roving the westerling hills in the pride of his unbroken might,  
Came long ago the pale faces, his brothers, seeking for freedom,  
adventure,  
New fields for his flocks, new hearth-fires to light.  
List then to the stories of deeds that are bold and romantic; or  
simple and homely and kind,  
Befitting the scions of sturdy New England: intrepid of spirit, high-  
hearted, untrammelled of mind.  
Tales of the breaking of homelands, of winning a charter of rights,  
Of traffic with Indian brother, road-building, house-raising,  
Days of grim toil against long winter nights.

Then in the pride of achievement grew the town to fairer propor-  
tions.  
Cupped by the shadowing hills and the far line of wooded lake-  
shore,  
From the valley rose church, school and tavern, music of anvils and  
mill wheel,  
Good cheer for the stranger, and largess of store.  
Mark now the life of the frugal yet prosperous household,



“Where dwelled no perfect man sublime  
Or woman winged before her time,  
But with the faults and follies of the race  
Old home-bred virtues held their rare and not unhonored place.”

But, sharply breaking the harmonies, clashing with discord comes  
war,

Reddening the lowering hills in the lurid glow of its wake.  
Guns toll like bells, sorrow unfathomed is borne in its train.

With hearts that refuse to be vanquished and spirits that know not  
surrender,

By the flame of liberty's torch and a vision no carnage can stain,  
On pressed this people, our fathers, seeking for right and for justice,  
Oft missing perfection, from failure and loss wresting gain.

Strengthened by incoming stock from far nations, varied in gifts of  
mind and of hand,

Yet one in allegiance, in honor unfailing the call of their new-  
chosen land.

So through the passing of years shall we see them, while science and  
art fresh wonders unfold,

Until old orders changing, past merges in present  
Like dreams that are ended and tales that are told.

*Josephine H. Batchelder.*

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## EPISODE I. 1647

### *Indians and Early Settlers*

*Scene 1.* The Nipmuc Indians, a peaceful tribe, are ruled over by a squaw sachem. Indian braves are discovered singing and playing games, comparing their hunting skill and testing their physical endurance, while old men sit around in their blankets, showing stolid approval. The Indian squaw sachem appears, accompanied by her women. The men show friendliness and devotion to her in simple fashion. Some Indian mothers sing a lullaby. An Indian runner comes, telling of white people who are not far away.

The sachem sends him back to show the visitors the way to the camp. Early settlers, some on horseback, enter. The runner shows them, in pantomime, that they have nothing to fear from the Indians and conducts them to camp. The sachem receives them kindly and sitting in the center of her group, she barter with them for broom-handles and basket stuff and fishing rights. As the bargaining is finished, the Indians move on, while the settlers talk over their good fortune.

*Scene 2.* Some of the settlers depart on horseback to go to the State House in Boston. After rights have been granted by the Great and General Court of Massachusetts, they return, telling the good news to the rest of the company who join them in a hymn of praise.

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## EPISODE II. 1724

*Sherborn Fathers Grant Act of Separation to Holliston and First Town Meeting is Held*

*Scene 1.* Thirteen freeholders go to Sherborn with a petition to be set off as a separate town. Permission is graciously granted and Holliston becomes a town in 1724.

*Scene 2.* First town meeting is held at the Timothy Leland house (later known as the Travis farm). The town offices are distributed among the baker's dozen of freeholders, some holding several at once, as, for example, John Goulding, who is chosen moderator, first selectman and town clerk. Typical motions are to the effect:

1. That each person in town shall cut and carry to the house of the minister one-half cord of wood for each poll rated in said family.
2. That the town of Holliston shall unite with the towns of Marlboro and Medfield in efforts to exterminate rattlers.



*Scene 3.* The last Indian, Hendrick, while cutting trees for his baskets, is reprimanded by the townspeople. He replies with a noble gesture,

“The woods belong to me.”

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INTERLUDE

*The Anvil Chorus*

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EPISODE III. 1743

*Scenes depicting town life: Arrival of Stage Coach and Going to Meeting*

*Scene 1.* Citizens lounging around the door of the old Stone Tavern. The old stage coach arrives with the new minister and his wife. They are received by a committee from the church and are conducted into the tavern where they are given a genial greeting by mine host. Horses from the stage are taken into the blacksmith shop nearby. A man is released from the stocks (“Ye sinner fished on Sabbath”) amid jeers of boys who follow him as the stage coach drives on.

*Scene 2.*                   “O spirit of that early day  
So pure and strong and true,  
Be with us in the narrow way  
Our faithful fathers knew.  
Give strength the evil to forsake  
The cross of truth to bear,  
And love and reverent fear to make  
Our daily lives a prayer.”—*Whittier.*

Groups walk to church sedately, while church-bells ring.  
Music of 'cello, and voices heard in hymns as they sing,

“Jerusalem, Our Glorious Home.”

EPISODE IV. 1775-1789

*Revolutionary Days*

PROLOGUE

Devious is the trail of progress  
Through the toilsome first half-century  
Of our township's living story.  
Men of stature, women loyal,  
Children many, work together  
Till those five-score sturdy settlers  
Grow to forty-score of patriots.  
Roads and schools and church we build us,  
Flax and hemp and wool in plenty  
Raise we on our hills and meadows,  
Lest for these we grow dependent  
On the ship-borne English products.  
Cannon, powder, we will purchase,  
'Gainst the day when open warfare  
May be forced on peaceful homesteads.  
Woe to Hollistonian farmer  
Who withstands the wise advices  
Of the Continental Congress.

Not by wire or rail or radio,  
But by hurried call and hoof-beat  
Comes the word, "The war's beginning.  
Arm ye! Lexington demands you!  
Show your mettle! Down, oppression!"  
See the patriots rallying, training,  
Marching eastward, southward, westward,  
Leaving wives to guide the plow-share,  
Do the herding, chopping, reaping.  
"We will plant, though Lord North says not,"  
Mistress Eames announces bluntly.  
"Babies, quiet lie in drink-trough,  
While I do your father's milking,"  
Is the word of Mistress Cutler.



“I can kill the calf, if need be,  
Dress it, bear it to your father  
In the camp,” stern cries another  
Patriot mother of our township,  
Holliston, whose tales we cherish.

Yonder 'neath those giant elm trees,  
See, there passes, riding calmly,  
Washington, the nation's father.  
Greet him, townsmen, shout, ye children.  
Soldier, statesman, steadfast patriot,  
Modest, high-souled citizen,  
Honoring him, yourselves you honor,  
Living type of simple manhood.  
Peace he brings us; war but passes.  
Soldier, president and farmer,  
Rest from rude alarm, from censure;  
Rest in hearts of crowding centuries.

Town historic, memories sacred  
Bring we forth before the Present  
Pageant-wise, in scene and action,  
That we too may share the heart-throb  
Felt mid early hard conditions.  
As WE're called to do OUR duty  
In the home, the field, th' assembly,  
(When to flinch, to shirk, is easy),  
Heed we well these loved traditions.— *U. Waldo Cutler.*

*Scene 1.* A rider gallops into town proclaiming that war has been declared. Crowds gather and become excited.

*Scene 2.* Three companies of soldiers drill and march away. “Spirit of '76.”

*Scene 3.* A day's work on the farm is pictured showing how when the men have gone to war, the women can still “carry on.” “Mrs. Eames” of Revolutionary fame, guides the plow and does man's work in the fields with gusto.

“We will plant, though Lord North says not!”

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*Scene 4.* Gen. Washington rides through town and is received by the ladies. Tea is served.

*Minuet*

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## INTERLUDE

*Maypole Dance*

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## EPISODE V. 1800

*Early School and Singing School*

*Scene 1.* Children are called together by a conch-shell. They courtesy to the teacher and go to seats. Devotional exercises are held. Roll call taken. Classes in spelling and reading. Singing-teacher arrives and drills pupils. Visitors come in during singing lesson. "Dunce" and "fat boy" featured.

*Scene 2.* Members of singing school meet in the schoolroom and prepare for concert.

*Program*

"Come, my Beloved, Haste Away"

"Cousin Jedediah"

"The Dearest Spot on Earth to Me"

"Strike the Cymbal"

"Three Blind Mice"—or some equally famous round.

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## EPISODE VI. 1838

*Departure of the Mormons*

"We'll tread the prairies as of old  
Our fathers crossed the sea,  
And make the West as they the East  
The homestead of the free."



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*Scene 1.* At a church meeting, those who have been converted to Mormonism are excommunicated from the church.

*Scene 2.* While several of the Mormon leaders are holding a meeting, an irate citizen attempts to bomb the building in which they have gathered.

*Scene 2.* Several families (representing some of the good old stock of the town) leave for the West in covered wagons. A sinister aspect, suggesting the dangers which threaten their journey, is shown in a glimpse of the Indians lurking about as they drive off.

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### INTERLUDE

“Erin” exiled and in distress, listening to the mournful sound of the harp, is urged by her maidens to look up and dry her tears. She looks across and discovers America beckoning to her. America, with her maidens, gives consolation to her sorrowing sister and the maidens join in a dance of joy.

### TABLEAU

CHORUS: “America, the Beautiful.”

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## EPISODE VII. 1847

### *The Coming of the Irish*

*Scene 1.* The shoe industry is represented as it was carried on by these early people in little shops in their homes. The shoes were made by hand, and young boys as they grew up were taught the trade.

*Scene 2.* A party at the home of one of the first Irish settlers shows the beauty of the Irish music and the happy, rollicking spirit of the dance in an Irish breakdown.

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### INTERLUDE

### *Lancers and Virginia Reel*

PROLOGUE

*Lincoln's Speech at Gettysburg*

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EPISODE VIII. 1860-1865

*Incidents of Civil War Period*

“The torches of the Wideawakes flashed out on a cloudy sky.”

*Scene 1.* Crowds gather at the post office in such numbers and eager groupings to hear the news about the firing on Fort Sumpter that Dr. Burnap, who lived at what is now the Historical House, remarked, “There’s a picture for a painter!” The Wideawakes, a political club, admirers of Lincoln, paraded in costume in torchlight processions.

*Scene 2.* Soldiers returning from war are met by friends and welcomed home.

CHORUS: “Battle Hymn of the Republic.”

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PROLOGUE

On winged feet the decades haste along;  
The strifes of arms, of warring factions cease.  
To liberty our thoughts belong;  
Our town’s not slow to hail the wished-for peace.

For martyred sons she’s grieving still;  
The nation’s loss she shares in martyred chief.  
But Holliston uprises with a will,  
In busy years for pain to find relief.

The Spirit of Seventy-Six awakes anew,  
The country’s hundredth year to celebrate,  
The way of progress eager to pursue,  
The growth of science swift to contemplate.

Then comes the trolly, telephone, and car  
By lightning driv’n, or rival gasoline,  
O’er good roads gliding rapid from afar,  
Eliminating space these towns between.



Yet luxury stands ready to allure,  
And danger lies in liberty's abuse;  
But this our town, true honor to secure,  
Her powers with wise restraint shall use.

The Twentieth Century, rushing, teeming,  
Dawns clear and bright 'neath Jasper's Hill,  
Beams hopeful o'er Lake Wennakeening,  
Then glances on toward Farquhar's Hill.

And soon it floods the township's whole,  
The home, the rock, the forest fair,  
Save that long-empty cellar hole  
Of burned hotel in Central Square.

Yet all must suffer from the blow  
Of foolish selfishness and hate;  
Once more in war our blood must flow  
As, others' greed to mitigate

In foreign lands, strangers beside,  
For others' good, to usher in  
A better day, our brave boys died,  
World brotherhood, world peace to win.

Come Holliston, thy torch, still glowing,  
Pass on to distant climes and days,  
To other generations showing  
Thy wholesome life, thy pleasant ways.

*U. Waldo Cutler.*

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## EPISODE IX. 1914–1924

### *The Shadow of the Great War*

A typical scene of camp life is suggested against a background of Red Cross workers. Canteen entertainer and "the boys" coming and going.

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The Spirit of Peace, entering at the close, beckons hopefully toward the future.

CHORUS: "The Heavens are Telling."

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### X. ENSEMBLE

*Those Who Made the Story of Holliston*

All who have played their parts in this story gather to do honor to Holliston's oldest residents, who join them and the audience in singing "Auld Lang Syne."











